



Daily Report

East Europe

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19 April 1988

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Border Trade Agreement Signed With Greece
NC172109 Athens Domestic Service in Greek
1830 GMT 17 Apr 88

[Text] Greek Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias and Albanian Foreign Minister Reis Malile signed an agreement on border trade today in Ioannina as the Albanian minister concluded his official visit to our country. The agreement covers the Greek nomes of Kerkira, Thesprotia, Ioannina, Florina, and Kastoria and the Albanian areas of Sarande, Gjirokaster, and Korce.

This, our first agreement on border trade, is an attempt to improve economic relations between the two countries, especially between border areas. The two ministers also agreed to form a joint committee headed by the nomarchs of Kerkira and Sarande. This committee will study the possibility of cooperation between the two countries within the framework of the border trade agreement. Specifically, it was agreed to directly link Kerkira and Sarande through a ferry boat service to facilitate the movement of goods and tourists.

After the signing of the agreement, Foreign Minister Papoulias spoke to our correspondent in Ioannina, Yeoryios Kourousis.

[Begin Papoulias recording] Today was an exceptional day in the progress of Greek-Albanian relations. We signed here in Ioannina an agreement for border trade, a very important agreement. The political will demonstrated by the prime minister, the Greek Government, and the political leadership of the Albanian Republic toward a further dynamic strengthening of relations between the two countries benefits not only our peoples, but the progress of all Balkan countries. It is a very important contribution to promoting relations. [end recording]

Trade Delegation Returns From Turkey 14 Apr
AU141906 Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian 1800
GMT 14 Apr 88

[Text] The government trade delegation of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania led by Minister of Light Industry Vito Kapo returned today from Turkey.

The delegation was welcomed at Rinas Airport by Minister of Foreign Trade Shane Korbeci and other comrades.

Delegate Addresses European Economic Commission
AU171350 Tirana ATA in English 0745 GMT
17 Apr 88

["The PSR of Albania Is for the Broadening of its Economic Cooperation With the European Countries on the Basis of Equality, Mutual Benefit and Noninterference in the Internal Affairs of Each Other"—ATA headline]

[Text] Tirana, April 17 (ATA)—At the 43rd session of the Economic Commission on Europe, which is holding its proceedings in Geneva, the floor was taken also by the

head of the Albanian delegation, Alfred Papuciu, who said among others:

The period since the 42nd session of the Economic Commission on Europe shows that the desires of the countries and peoples of the region for the stabilization of the situation and the improvement of the economic and trade relations were not fulfilled. The facts prove that over the last year, too, the economic situation in Europe in many aspects has become serious due to the negative economic and financial factors.

After speaking on the aggravation of the debt crises, worsening the economy of the debtor countries, the Albanian representative said: "The development of the international trade is hindered by the intensification of the discriminating and protectionist measures on the part of the big powers and multinational companies towards the other countries and especially towards the less developed ones. At the same time the raising of the tariff and non-tariff barriers for some certain goods and countries, the manipulation of prices, the existence of the closed markets, etc., have not allowed a normal and balanced development of the European trade."

The People's Socialist Republic of Albania, he stressed, has been and is for an equal and normal development of the international economic and trade relations, it opposes the policy of discrimination of the dictate and supports any constructive step that would lead towards the improvement of these relations. We have been and are for that cooperation which is based on the principles of equality, mutual benefit, and noninterference in the internal affairs of each other.

Guided by these principles, Socialist Albania, in the future, too, will continue its efforts to strengthen and broaden the economic cooperation in the fields of trade, transport, industry, agriculture, finances, energy, science and technique. It is for a further development of the cooperation with the Balkan countries, where, as it was stressed also in the joint communique of the foreign ministers' meeting of the countries of this region, there exist fields of common interest for the broadening of this cooperation.

Alia Greet's Syria's Al-Asad on National Day
AU171348 Tirana ATA in English 0730 GMT
17 Apr 88

[Text] Tirana, April 17 (ATA)—The president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, Comrade Ramiz Alia, sent the following message of greetings to the president of the Syrian Arab Republic, Hafiz al-Asad:

"On occasion of the celebration of the anniversary of the proclamation of the independence of Syria, it is a pleasure to me that, on behalf of the Albanian people, of the Presidium of the People's Assembly and in my own name, to convey to you the warm greetings and to the

friendly Syrian people the best wishes for the further development of the national economy and culture and the strengthening of the defence of the homeland.

"I avail myself of the opportunity to wish that the friendly relations between our two countries be incessantly developed to the common benefit of our two peoples."

Leaders Public Appearances 10-16 April

AU171340 [Editorial Report] Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian in its broadcasts from 10-16 April reports the following public appearances of Albanian leaders (time and date of broadcast in parentheses):

Ramiz Alia, AWP Central Committee first secretary and chairman of the Presidium of the People's Assembly; Adil Carcani, AWP Central Committee Politburo member and chairman of the Council of Ministers; AWP Central Committee Politburo members Besnik Bekteshi, Foto Cami, Hajredin Celiku, Hekuran Isai, Lenka Cuko, Manush Myftiu, Prokop Murra, and Simon Stefani; AWP Central Committee Politburo candidate members Kico Mustaqi, Llambi Gegprifti, Pirro Kondi, and Vangel Cerrava, attended a ceremony on 11 April marking the anniversary of Enver Hoxha's death. (1800 GMT 11 April)

Ramiz Alia, AWP Central Committee first secretary and chairman of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, met on 12 April with Hardial Baines, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Marxist-Leninist Communist Party of Canada. (1800 GMT 12 April)

Muho Asllani, member of the AWP Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Shkoder District AWP Committee, attended a ceremony in Shkoder on 11 April on the anniversary of Enver Hoxha's death. (1800 GMT 11 April)

Foto Cami, AWP Central Committee Politburo member and secretary, is reported to have met Hardial Baines, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Marxist-Leninist Communist Party of Canada, on an unspecified date. (1800 GMT 12 April)

Qirjako Mihali, candidate member of the AWP Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Durres District AWP Committee, attended a ceremony on 11 April in Durres on the anniversary of Enver Hoxha's death. (1800 GMT 11 April)

Manush Myftiu, AWP Central Committee Politburo member and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, attended a meeting on 12 April in Gjirokaster of the preparatory commission for the Gjirokaster Folklore Festival. (1800 GMT 12 April)

Gotsev Addresses UN Economic Commission
AU181631 Sofia BTA in English
1601 GMT 18 Apr 88

["Bulgaria Favors Active East-West Cooperation"—
BTA headline]

[Text] Geneva, April 18 (BTA)—Addressing the 43rd Session of the UN Economic Commission for Europe (E.C.E.), the head of the Bulgarian delegation Mr Lyuben Gotsev, deputy minister of foreign affairs, emphasized that along with the positive trends which have recently emerged in the international situation, various forms of East-West economic cooperation still fail to make visible progress. This is also evidenced by the data contained in the E.C.E.-prepared survey of the economic situation in Europe in 1987.

Mr Lyuben Gotsev discussed the principal questions concerning multilateral economic cooperation and said that there are still untapped opportunities to further East-West economic relations, especially bearing in mind that the problems of the world economy require close international interaction and cooperation.

The chief Bulgarian delegate said that the stabilization of international economic relations in the E.C.E. region, which concentrates the planet's major economic potential, will undoubtedly have a favorable impact on the strengthening of international economic security and will give an impetus to the world's economic advancement.

The speaker assessed in positive terms the E.C.E. work during the outgoing year. He said that after the reorganization suggestions are adopted, the E.C.E. should take qualitative steps in its development. This could be achieved through specific business talks, through speeding up the implementation of projects of reciprocal interest, through using the opportunities offered in a number of promising fields such as joint industrial production, joint ventures, exchange of technologies, joint research, development and design and joint entry in the markets of third countries.

Mr Lyuben Gotsev praised the work on the general economic prospect for development of the E.C.E. member countries up to the year 2000.

In conclusion, he reiterated the Bulgarian Government's preparedness to persevere in its contribution to the practical activation of East-West cooperation in all areas.

Khristov Receives PZPR CC Working Group
AU181518 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO
in Bulgarian 16 Apr 88 p 2

[BTA report: "Acquaintance With BCP Experience"]

[Text] In accordance with the plan on cooperation and exchange of experiences between the BCP and the PZPR, a working group of the PZPR Central Committee

led by Jan Cwintel, deputy director of the PZPR Central Committee "Social and Vocational" Department, visited Bulgaria from 11 to 15 April.

The Polish guests were received by Emil Khristov, secretary of the BCP Central Committee.

Meetings took place at the BCP Central Committee "Economic and Scientific-Technical Policy" Department, the Council of Ministers, the Ministry of Economy and Planning, and the Institute of Social Management. The working group visited Lovech Oblast, where it had meetings at the BCP Lovech Oblast Committee and Electric Instruments Plant.

During the talks, which took place in a cordial and friendly atmosphere, the guests were briefed on the activity of the Communists in implementing the concept on further constructing socialism in our country, and more specifically, on the restructuring in the area of national economy.

Balev, Delegation Return From CSSR
AU181242 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in
Bulgarian 17 Apr 88 p 2

[Text] The BCP delegation led by Milko Balev, member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo and Central Committee secretary, returned from Prague on 16 April. The delegation took part in the meeting of the representatives of the communist and workers' parties, which discussed the work of the magazine PROBLEMS OF PEACE AND SOCIALISM. Dimitur Stanishev, secretary of the BCP Central Committee, and Gancho Ganev, permanent representative of the BCP at the Editorial Board of the magazine, were members of the delegation.

At Sofia Airport the delegation was greeted by Yordan Yotov, member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo and Central Committee secretary, and Vaclav Janousek, CSSR ambassador to Bulgaria.

Zhivkov Greets Syria on National Day
AU181605 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO
in Bulgarian 17 Apr 88 p 1

[Text] Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and State Council chairman, has sent a message to Hafiz al-Asad, general secretary of the Ba'th Arab Socialist Party and president of the Syrian Arab Republic, which expresses most cordial greetings and wishes on Syria's National Day.

Under the conditions of a difficult struggle and constant pressure by the forces of imperialism, Zionism, and reaction, the Syrian people led by the Ba'th Arab Socialist Party, are confidently marching along the road of independent and progressive development of the country, the message reads. Under your leadership, important successes were achieved in strengthening the unity of the

patriotic and progressive forces united in the National Progressive Front, in the socioeconomic development of the country, and in culture, education, and health care.

The Bulgarian people highly value the principled anti-imperialist policy of the Syrian Arab Republic and its consistent struggle in defense of the Arab cause and to reach a comprehensive and just peace in the Middle East.

The message reads: I am confident, dear Comrade al-Asad, that friendly relations between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Syrian Arab Republic, and between the BCP and the Ba'th Arab Socialist Party will continue to develop along an ascending line, on the basis of the Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation and in the spirit of the agreements reached during your last visit in the People's Republic of Bulgaria, in the interest of our two peoples, our joint aspiration toward democracy and social progress, and peace and security throughout the world.

Ecological Seminar for Balkan Youth Meets

*AU180823 Sofia BTA in English
0717 GMT 18 Apr 88*

[Text] Sofia, April 18 (BTA)—Representatives of youth organizations from Bulgaria, Cyprus, Greece, Romania, Turkey and Yugoslavia are attending the International Youth Seminar "Balkan Ecological Brigades," organized in this country from April 10 to April 22. Initiator and host of this first activity of the youth from the Balkan states is the Dimitrov Young Communist League. The idea about consecutive meetings in the different countries between young ecologists from the Balkans has been supported at the present discussion.

The participants in the seminar had a talk at the editorial offices of the KOOPERATIVNO SELO daily about which it informs today. The youth representatives are unanimous that the questions about environment conservation and peace preservation are interrelated. That is why if the Balkans are to be turned into a zone of ecological equilibrium the efforts should be oriented toward the realization of the idea for the turning of the Balkans into a zone free of chemical and nuclear weapons.

The participants greet this first contact between political youth organizations from the Balkan countries where they discuss the forms of further cooperation between young people for finding of common solutions in the preservation and improvement of the ecological condition of the peninsula.

Control Committee Penalizes 'Bad Managers'

*AU181225 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO
in Bulgarian 15 Apr 88 p 8*

[BTA report: "Just Penalties for Bad Managers"]

[Text] Expenditures backed by irregular invoices, numerous dinners and luncheons financed by means ostensibly allocated for overhead expenditures and cultural events, and systematic use of the labor of workers

and employees for personal needs—all these deeds, revealed by an inspection of the Committee on State and People's Control, can hardly be connected with the notion of an economic manager. However, the truth has been proven. Such had been the style and methods of work of Todor Mutafov, the former director of the "Devnya Springs" Enterprise in Devnya City. He continued to freely apply the "accumulated experience" in his new post as chairman of the Cooperative Union in Varna. His violations of state and financial discipline have cost the state some 67,096 leva. Additional facts indicate that he had utilized his official post for private benefits.

The Committee on State and People's Control noted that the case represents a precedent which is inadmissible under conditions of self-management, and punished Todor Mutafov by firing him and imposing a fine. The results of the inspections have been handed to the Chief Prosecutor's Office for eventual prosecution.

The members of the general [Kompleksna] in Belo Pole Village, which is a part of the Ruzhintsi Agro-Industrial Complex, also proved to be bad managers. Its leaders have allowed 7.5 metric tonnes of corn grain to be wasted. The committee has warned Ivan Mateev, chairman of the Ruzhintsi Agro-Industrial Complex; Vasil Vasilev, leader of the complex brigade, has been punished by a "strict reprimand" and a fine; Nikola Ivanov, brigade manager, has been fired and fined; and Zdravko Mirchev, brigade technologist, has been strictly reprimanded and fined. The results of the inspection, conducted after a critical program carried by Bulgarian Television, have been handed to the Chief Prosecutor's Office of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, with the demand for total indemnity for the financial losses.

The Committee on State and People's control has revealed many violations at the "Television and Radio Service" Enterprise in Pazardzhik. The inspection was conducted on the basis of a tip-off. Georgi Georgiev, director of the enterprise, has been punished by a "strict reprimand" and a fine for violations of financial, labor, and technological discipline which he had allowed in the process of accepting and reporting commissions.

DURZHAVEN VESTNIK on Incentives

*AU181712 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO
in Bulgarian 15 Apr 88 p 2*

[Text] Issue No. 29 of DURZHAVEN VESTNIK publishes the following:

—A scale has been established for granting resources to encourage participants in the development and application of scientific-research and technological products. The scale was issued by the Ministry of the Economy and Planning on the basis of Article 71, Item 2 of the Code for Economic Activity. This article stipulates that the commodity producing organization is entitled to grant

the participants in programming and creative collectives, as well as individual workers, an additionally established percentage from the volume of the sale or profit obtained as a result of the application of scientific-research and technological products. These amounts are to be paid within a certain schedule and their amount is determined by contracts between two sides, observing the scale approved by the minister of the economy and planning.

The scale itself consists of two sections. The first section, divided into two paragraphs, indicates the upper limit to which a percentage can be agreed upon for granting means from the volume of the sale of production obtained from the application of scientific-research and technological products. The second section, divided into three paragraphs, indicates the amount of the resources allocated for incentives that should be granted from the profits obtained as a result of the application of scientific-research and technological products.

Ovcharov Reports 7 Percent Production Rise

AU190752 Sofia BTA in English

0721 GMT 19 Apr 88

["At the Council of Ministers of Bulgaria"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, April 19 (BTA)—The results of the fulfillment of the plan for techno-scientific and socioeconomic development of this country during the first three months of the year represent a good start for the overall

fulfilment of the planned indices for 1988, Mr Georgi Atanasov, member of the Politburo of the CC of the BCP and chairman of the Council of Ministers of Bulgaria, said yesterday.

The information on the meeting at the Council of Ministers published in RABOTNICHESKO DELO and TRUD quotes also the speech delivered by Mr Stoyan Ovcharov, minister of the economy and planning, which points out that according to preliminary data the qualitative and quantitative indices for the development of the national economy have been achieved. And more concretely, there is an increase of 7 percent in the total production compared to the same period of the previous year; the social productivity of labour has grown 10.4 percent; the production for the home market has grown by 6 percent; and services for the population, by more than 9 percent.

The prime cost of the production has been decreased, as well as the material expenses. The export of products has grown. Special contribution to the achievement of the planned indices have the strategic trends in the development of economy, among them: electronics, biotechnological and chemical industry, and mechanical engineering.

Along with that it has been noted at the meeting that there have been certain weaknesses in the work of some enterprises.

Mr Grigor Stoichkov, alternate member of the Politburo of the CC of the BCP and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, has informed of the work on the preparation of the workteams and the population in connection with the transference of socialist property for management and control.

CPCZ CC Assesses Husak, Jakes USSR Visits
LD151531 Prague Domestic Service in Czech
1400 GMT 15 Apr 88

[Text] The Presidium of the CPCZ Central Committee in its session today discussed and approved a report on the proceedings and results of the official friendly visit of Gustav Husak, member of the Presidium of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the Republic, to the Soviet Union which he made on 11-14 April of this year at the invitation of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

It highly appraised the importance of the visit and the talks he had with Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Andrey Gromyko, chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet; and other Soviet representatives. It noted that the process of restructuring and democratization in both countries, in harmony with the conclusions of the 17th CPCZ Congress and the 27th CPSU Congress, create favorable conditions for further dynamic development of mutual fraternal cooperation in all spheres.

It emphasized the importance of the concept of the economic and scientific-technical cooperation between Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union that has been worked out over the past 15-20 years as the basis of the further development of bilateral relations; major achievements in the most important spheres of science, technology, and production; and the implementation of planned structural changes in the economies of the two countries.

It noted with satisfaction the progress in the preparation of a treaty on cooperation between the CPCZ and the CPSU in the ideological sphere.

The Presidium noted with satisfaction the existence of a full identity of views on the situation in the world and highly appraised the active foreign policy of the Soviet Union. It welcomed the support the Soviet Union gives to the Czechoslovak initiative for the creation of a zone of trust, cooperation, and neighborly relations on the line of contact between the Warsaw Pact member states and the NATO member states and to other proposals for disarmament and the reduction of international tension.

Czechoslovakia will continue to strengthen its cooperation with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries in international affairs in the interest of strengthening peace and security in the world.

The Presidium of the CPCZ Central Committee also discussed a report on the proceedings and results of the friendly working visit of Comrade Milos Jakes, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, to the People's Republic of Hungary and his talks with Janos Kadar, general secretary of the MSZMP. The talks confirmed their identical views on basic questions of the further development of socialism and respect for the

specific features of each country and gave a new impulse to the all-around development of relations between the two fraternal parties and countries. Both representatives expressed identical views on foreign-political issues and full support for the effort to reduce international tension, for the peace proposals of the Soviet Union, and for the initiatives of the Warsaw Pact member countries.

The Presidium of the CPCZ Central Committee praised the results of the talks. It emphasized the need to act more decisively in broadening and increasing the level of mutual scientific-technical cooperation; to implement more extensively new progressive forms of cooperation, above all, coordination and specialization; and to support the effective setting up and mutual advantage of direct relations and joint enterprises. It also spoke in favor of more dynamic development in relations between Czechoslovakia and Hungary in all other spheres of the life of society.

The Presidium of the CPCZ Central Committee has ordered the conclusions of the talks to be worked out into specific measures. Their fulfillment should be controlled.

Further Report

LD151910 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak
1500 GMT 15 Apr 88

[Text] A meeting today of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium discussed a report on the course and results of the official friendly visit to the Soviet Union by Gustav Husak, member of the Party Central Committee Presidium and president of the Republic, and of the friendly working visit to the Hungarian People's Republic by Comrade Milos Jakes, general secretary of the party Central Committee. In this connection it adopted standpoints which we announced in an earlier news bulletin.

The Presidium discussed the settlement of certain humanitarian issues. It approved appropriate proposals for measures to be drawn up to simplify the procedure of the Czechoslovak authorities in this area. This refers, for example, to the unification of families, journeys by Czechoslovak citizens to nonsocialist states, unauthorized emigration, and so forth. At the same time it instructed the federal minister of the interior to elaborate these proposals, it approved principles for establishing a new cadre procedure of the CPCZ Central Committee aimed at enhancing democratization and simplifying cadre work in the party bodies.

The Presidium heard a report on the provision for restructuring the organization of the production equipment, scientific research, and circulation [obehovy] infrastructures into state enterprises, and for implementing their restructuring guidelines. At the end of March the appropriate bodies completed their activity by discussing the collective proposals for restructuring their organization. Over a period of time, the views on setting up the state enterprises took a definite shape. The basic

thrust of the proposals put forward is that in the sphere of the fuel and power infrastructure, heavy engineering and, to some extent too, in the centrally-managed construction sphere, it is large units which will be proposed for conversion to state enterprises, even though there are also proposals for singling out certain smaller enterprises. In the areas of the consumer goods industry, general engineering, the electrical engineering and electronics industry, and trade there is a prevailing tendency in favor of setting up state enterprises in existing national enterprises and organizations. A preliminary assessment of the proposals processed, particularly the individual proposals, shows that in many cases they have not been backed up by the necessary economic substantiation.

The Presidium also took note of a report on the beginning of the public discussion on the principles of the amendments to the labor code. The first findings from the developing public discussion demonstrate that the draft amendments to the labor code have been received positively by the public at large. The fact is particularly appreciated that the principles of the amendments to the labor code put forward for discussion have been worked out in a way that is clear and intelligible to all the working people. The course of the public discussion so far confirms, on the whole, that the decision to organize such a discussion was correct. The published principles immediately elicited extraordinary interest and a considerable quantity of comments and suggestions can be expected.

In organizing and guiding the discussion, the experience of the discussion on the draft laws on the state enterprise and agricultural and other cooperatives was positively reflected. An important role in explaining the intentions of the amendments to the labor code and in presenting the content of the principles is played by the mass media, particularly RUDE PRAVO, PRAVDA, the trade union dailies, and by radio and television editorial staff. The public discussion must be consistently linked with the restructuring of the economic mechanism and with the efforts to fulfill the plan.

The CPCZ Central Committee Presidium went on to discuss some issues connected with the arrangements for the celebrations of May Day and 9 May [Czechoslovak national day], and some other questions of internal and foreign policy.

CEMA Secretary Continues Working Visit

Briefs Press

LD151534 Prague Domestic Service in Czech
1030 GMT 15 Apr 88

[Text] CEMA Secretary Vyacheslav Sychev, who is on a working visit to Czechoslovakia met journalists in Prague today. He praised the results of his talks with Comrades Jakes, Strougal, and Rohlicek. He explained in detail changes in the structure of the CEMA bodies and their activities. He stressed that the Council is now

concentrating on coordination cooperation at the highest level, which involves overwhelmingly global problems. Vyacheslav Sychev at the same time confirmed that administrative, legal, price, and currency obstacles continue to inhibit the faster development of forms of cooperation and that these have to be eliminated speedily. He said that in his view nothing is preventing official relations between the CEMA and EEC from being established already this year.

Meets With Strougal

LD150446 Prague CTK in English
1552 GMT 15 Apr 88

[Text] Prague April 14 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Premier Lubomir Strougal today received secretary of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA) Vyacheslav Sychev to discuss preparations for the 44th CMEA session to take place in Prague next summer.

They agreed on the need to speed up the economic integration of the socialist countries, push through a realistic program of the division of labour which should have influence on essential structural changes in the individual CMEA states and thus start the creation of suitable conditions for the acceleration of cooperation, especially in direct contacts and joint ventures, and consequently to start eliminating administrative, legal, price and foreign currency barriers which threaten the achievement of objectives.

The two officials assessed the state of preparations for an agreement between the CMEA and the European Economic Community.

Vyacheslav Sychev informed Lubomir Strougal about the course of the restructuring of the CMEA mechanism, reduction of the number of committees and commissions, and big limitation of the CMEA Secretariat's staff.

Lubomir Strougal voiced full support of the Czechoslovak Government for the endeavour for positive changes inside the CMEA, and stressed the need to change the working habits, approaches and psychology of senior officials. The Czechoslovak economy essentially needs quicker integration processes in the socialist community, concrete economic and especially industrial results, and a change in the practice of economic cooperation between the CMEA member states.

Departs for Home

LD161058 Prague CTK in English
1000 GMT 16 Apr 88

[Text] Prague April 16 (CTK)—Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA) Secretary Vyacheslav Sychev today ended a several-day working visit to Czechoslovakia and left for home.

Vyacheslav Sychev was received by Czechoslovak Communist Party General Secretary Milos Jakes and Premier Lubomir Strougal, held talks with first deputy premier and permanent Czechoslovak representative in the CMEA Rudolf Rohlicek, as well as with representatives of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences and the Prague School of Economics.

He also visited the 19th international fair of consumer goods in Brno, South Moravia.

Further Reportage on Fojtik Visit to FRG

Visits Marx Birthplace

*LD171514 Prague Domestic Service in Czech
1400 GMT 17 Apr 88*

[Text] Jan Fojtik, member of the Presidium and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, who is visiting the FRG at the invitation of the SDP Presidium, visited Trier today. He visited the house where Karl Marx was born and viewed a permanent exhibition of the history of the beginnings of the working class movement and the documents relating to Marx' theoretical and publishing work.

Meets SPD Politicians, Departs

*LD190435 Prague CTK in English
2014 GMT 18 Apr 88*

[Text] Bonn April 18 (CTK correspondent)—Czechoslovak Communist Party Presidium Member and Central Committee Secretary Jan Fojtik met further Social Democratic Party (SPD) representatives here today.

During talks with SPD Presidium member Hans-Ulrich Klos, the two officials pointed out that in the nuclear era new thinking is a prerequisite for strengthening confidence in international relations and for establishing solid foundations of peaceful coexistence of states with different social systems.

European security and joint initiatives of the Czechoslovak Communist Party and the West German Social Democratic Party were on the agenda of Jan Fojtik's talks with SPD Presidium Member and spokesman for the SPD parliamentary group Karsten Voigt. Jan Fojtik said the Czechoslovak proposal for establishing a zone of confidence, cooperation and good neighbourly relations on the borderline between the Warsaw Treaty and NATO creates conditions for a broad dialogue and joint action in central Europe. Karsten Voigt said the SPD was ready to discuss this proposal.

The two officials said it was necessary to consider setting up joint institutions that would help settle questions of building confidence and improving security in Europe. Karsten Voigt said the SPD was interested in discussing the approach of different ideologies to questions of

security, and said he wished that the document concerning this question, elaborated by the SPD and SED, should not be considered an exclusive affair between the two German states.

Later in the day, Jan Fojtik met Minister in the Chancellor's Office Wolfgang Schauble. The two officials stated that relations between the two countries had been developing favourably and were given new stimuli during Chancellor Helmut Kohl's recent visit to Czechoslovakia.

The SPD representative stressed there exists a big chance for further steps to promote good neighbourly relations and that the FRG was prepared to improve cooperation with Czechoslovakia in all spheres. He added that the process of restructuring in Czechoslovakia, followed with great interest in the FRG, creates further favourable conditions for this.

Jan Fojtik also met with State Secretary in the Foreign Ministry Juergen Sudhoff who welcomed the fact that an agreement on cooperation between the EEC and CMEA is to be signed during the presidency of the FRG in the EEC. Jan Fojtik informed him of Czechoslovakia's initiatives including a recent government statement concerning the liquidation of chemical weapons in Czechoslovakia, GDR and FRG.

Later on Jan Fojtik ended his visit and left for home.

RUDE PRAVO Editor Views Munich 'Sell-out'

*LD141337 Prague CTK in English
1301 GMT 14 Apr 88*

[Text] Cheb, West Bohemia, April 14 (CTK)—A two-day international symposium "Munich 1938 and its Consequences for Czechoslovakia" started in the West Bohemian town of Cheb today.

The symposium is also attended by member of the Czechoslovak Communist Party Central Committee Secretariat and Editor-in-Chief of the party's daily RUDE PRAVO Zdenek Horeni.

The Munich sell-out was one of those factors that have made it evident to people that it is necessary and urgent to base the struggle for the restoration of the Czechoslovak Republic and its future on the Soviet Union. Zdenek Horeni stressed, saying that this was the main and decisive lesson the Czechoslovak people have drawn from the Munich tragedy.

The best building stone in the construction of a peaceful Europe is what had been missing at the time of the Munich sell-out—a collective principle of discussing problems, e.g. the present socialist countries' plan to create a comprehensive system of international peace and security. Zdenek Horeni said.

We put against the policy of military confrontation the idea of a common European home, which we regard mainly as a symbol of certain European integrity, although the countries involved have different social systems and are members of military and political blocs standing against each other, the RUDE PRAVO editor-in-chief emphasized.

Party Press Scores Hijacking of Kuwaiti Plane

AU181552 [Editorial Report] Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech and Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak on 14 April both publish commentaries condemning the continued hijacking of the Kuwaiti airliner, while at the same time taking issue with the "double yardsticks" applied by Western critics of the hijacking (RUDE PRAVO) and praising the role played by the PLO and Algeria (PRAVDA).

Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech on 14 April on page 7 carries a 600-word commentary by Josef Nyvlt entitled "Double Yardstick of Indignation."

Nyvlt first comments on the downing of an Afghan civilian aircraft by "Afghan extremists" on 10 April, which claimed the lives of 23 passengers and 6 crew members; Nyvlt emphasizes that the plane was shot down by an American Stinger missile, by "extremists" who had been trained by U.S. instructors. Nyvlt continues: "By coincidence, at about the same time this latest terrorist crime occurred in Afghanistan, attention was focused on the cruelty of terrorists who have hijacked the Kuwaiti aircraft. The drama of the abducted passengers is dealt with by governments and the media express absolutely warranted and just indignation over, and condemnation of, the blackmailers' and murderers' monstrosity. Yet it is incomprehensible that, while articles on the hijacking appear under banner headlines, the Western press has not found space to even mention the terrorist act in Afghanistan. Could it be because, on the one side, there are 30 murdered Afghans and, on the other, the endangered lives of Britons and Frenchmen? The objection that a war is raging in Afghanistan will not hold water. Everywhere in the world, the defenseless civilian population is subject to international law. And a fanatic with an American missile is, in this case, no different from a lunatic with explosives aboard a plane."

In conclusion Nyvlt points out that it is precisely the United States, "whose representatives are so zealous and merciless in verbally fighting terrorism," that is supplying modern, easy-to-use arms to "groups of adventurers" in many parts of the world, and thereby "supporting acts of terrorism, the consequences of which are hard to predict." He also warns that, next time, an American aircraft could become the target of such "adventurers."

Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak on 14 April on page 7 carries a 650-word commentary by Boris Latta entitled "More Cruel Than Horror." Latta lists a number of recent cases of "international terrorism," among them

the assassination of an African National Congress official in Paris and "the hijacking of the Kuwaiti Boeing 747 airliner on the regular Bangkok-Kuwait route" and attributes them to "regional conflicts as the fertile soil of international terrorism." According to Latta, the emergence of regional conflicts is, in turn, "the result of concentrated efforts by imperialist forces."

In the concluding part of the commentary, Latta then discusses the need to combat terrorism. He says: "The field of international relations must be cleared of the poisonous weed of terrorism. But this must not be done by the means of state terrorism. In such cases, mankind finds itself in the vicious circle of brute force and bloodshed, which only results in an even greater number of lost lives and victims in the form of breached state sovereignty and violated international law. So far, only dedication and sober judgment have managed to at least limit the damage resulting from terrorism. In the case of the latest hijacking of the Kuwaiti airliner, a positive example is provided by the activity of the PLO and the determination of Algeria, on whose soil the aircraft was standing at the time these lines are being written."

SFRY Parliamentary Delegation Arrives

LD182005 Prague CTK in English
1558 GMT 18 Apr 88

[Text] Prague April 18 (CTK)—A Yugoslav Parliamentary delegation, led by Federal Assembly (Savezna Skupstina) President Marjan Rozic, arrived here Monday for an official visit to Czechoslovakia.

The delegation was welcomed by Czechoslovak Federal Assembly Chairman Alois Indra, at whose invitation the visit takes place. The Czechoslovak-Yugoslav talks are another contribution to intensively developing relations between the two countries and the two parliaments. The two sides will exchange views on international topics, and will discuss deepening of bilateral cooperation in political, economic, cultural and other spheres, and also experience in parliamentary activities.

Poles Demand Compensation for Pollution

AU181732 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech
13 Apr 88 p 7

[“PM”-signed report in the “24 Hours Abroad” column]

[Text] In accordance with the conclusions of the talks on the environment held by the premiers of the CSSR, the PPR, and the GDR in the city of Jelenia Gora in March, the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs demands compensation from the CSSR Government for the damage caused by the pollution of the Odra River by Czechoslovak enterprises. This was said by Jerzy Urban, spokesman of the Polish Government, at a press conference in Warsaw on Tuesday [12 April].

Bilak Receives Visiting PDPA Delegation

*LD182023 Prague Domestic Service in Czech
1400 GMT 18 Apr 88*

[Text] Vasil Bilak, Presidium member and CPCZ Central Committee secretary received today a PDPA [People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan] delegation led by Najmuddin Kawiani, Politburo member and party Central Committee secretary. The delegation participated in Prague in the conference of the journal PROBLEMS OF PEACE AND SOCIALISM. The two representatives informed each other about topical tasks of the two fraternal parties.

Vasil Bilak once again reaffirmed the full support of the CPCZ and the Czechoslovak people for the national reconciliation policy in Afghanistan, welcomed the successful completion of the Afghan-Pakistani talks in Geneva, and spoke in favor of the necessity to fulfill the obligations contained in Geneva agreements by all contractual parties.

Afghan Official Praises CSSR Peace Initiative

*LD171524 Prague CTK in English
1443 GMT 17 Apr 88*

[Text] Kabul April 17 (CTK correspondent)—The new Czechoslovak peace initiative aimed at creating a zone of confidence, cooperation and good neighbourly relations on the line dividing the Warsaw Treaty and NATO member states is exceptionally significant, Deputy Chairman of the Afghan Organization of Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Asad Rogh has told CTK.

He stressed that a similar approach is necessary not only in Europe but also in other parts of the world, mainly in the areas of increased international tension.

Asad Rogh emphasized that the Czechoslovak initiative reflects the present innovating approach of the socialist states to foreign policy questions. It is important and useful that the proposals of the socialist countries do not concern only disarmament but various spheres of East-West relations with the aim to reach mutual understanding in the interest of the future of all mankind.

The Czechoslovak concept of confidence and cooperation between the Warsaw Treaty and NATO states offers a new prospect in international relations, not only in central Europe, Asad Rogh concluded.

Draft Amendment on Foreign Trade Law Approved

*LD150655 Prague CTK in English
1900 GMT 14 Apr 88*

[Text] Prague April 14 (CTK)—The Czechoslovak Government approved at its session today draft amendments to the law on external economic relations.

They considerably extend the competence of enterprises in economic contacts with foreign countries and for the first time contain legal provisions concerning direct contracts between Czechoslovak and foreign economic organizations.

The activities of these Czechoslovak economic organizations will be guided and influenced from the centre only to the necessary extent and by means to be defined by law—primarily economic tools and universally binding regulations. The Federal Ministry of Foreign Trade will remain the only body of state administration controlling all types of external economic contacts. It will also issue authorizations to Czechoslovak organizations for such contacts.

The amendments enable Czechoslovak enterprises to choose any authorized Czechoslovak organization in case of indirect external economic relations.

The legal status of foreign trade corporations will be made virtually identical with that of state enterprises. They will operate on the basis of self-accounting, self-financing and socialist self-management, including the election of general managers.

Another point on the government's agenda today was the draft principles of an experiment in which a new system of planning, financing and material incentives would be tested in organizations fully or partly financed from the national budget. The purpose of this experiment is to find a system of management of these organizations which would rationalize the ever growing costs in the non-production sphere.

At least ten fully or partly financed organizations are to be selected for the experiment in each education, health service and culture, and possibly other branches, by May 31.

Jakes Receives Swiss Workers Party Leader

*LD181945 Prague CTK in English
1532 GMT 18 Apr 88*

[Text] Prague April 18 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Communist Party General Secretary Milos Jakes received here Monday General Secretary of the Workers' Party of Switzerland Jean Spielman, who is in Czechoslovakia at the invitation of the Czechoslovak Communist Party Central Committee.

The two representatives expressed identical views on the current international topics and stressed that the most urgent task of the present is to activate the struggle for averting the threat of a nuclear war, for disarmament and a comprehensive system of international peace and security. They pointed to the direct connection between the struggle for averting the threat of a nuclear war and the struggle for social rights of the workers in the

capitalist countries. Calling for a secure and stable situation in Europe, they expressed support for the development of cooperation not only in Europe, but in the whole world. Jean Spielmann welcomed the Czechoslovak proposal for creating a zone of confidence, cooperation and good neighbourly relations on the line dividing the Warsaw Treaty and NATO countries submitted by Milos Jakes on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the Victorious February.

Libyan Envoy Recalls U.S. 'Aggression'
*AU181318 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech
13 Apr 88 p 6*

["VPL"-signed report: "Aggression Has Been Replaced By Embargo; Libyan Ambassador to the CSSR on the Continuing Hostile Policy of the United States"]

[Text] Prague (Our Correspondent)—Although the general international situation has markedly improved of late and shifts have also occurred in some of the White House's attitudes, owing to the hostile policy of Washington, the relations between Libya and the United States continue to be exacerbated, Muhammad Musbah Khalifa, leading secretary of the People's Bureau of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyyah, stressed at a meeting with journalists in Prague on Tuesday [12 April].

Two years ago, on 15 April 1986, that policy led to the barbaric attack on Tripoli and Benghazi by 30 USAF bombers, the Libyan diplomat noted. In the course of that aggression, also condemned—with a few exceptions—by Washington's allies, dozens of victims, including women and children, remained under the debris of civilian buildings. The pretext for the air attack—allegedly for Libyan complicity in an attack on American soldiers in a discotheque in West Berlin—was clearly disproved, even by the West European press. The Reagan government has not stopped its crusade and is now striving to isolate our country economically, he said further.

Mohamed Musbah Khalifa also pointed out the response to the unilateral withdrawal of Libyan units from the borders with Tunisia and Egypt. Whereas Algeria, Tunisia, and Sudan have welcomed that step, Egypt did not agree with the opening of the borders (Egyptian official sources said that, allegedly, there was no withdrawal of the Libyan Army—editor).

Replying to journalists' questions, the Libyan ambassador mentioned some social measures recently approved by the Parliament in Libya—strengthening the right to work, establishing people's courts instead of the existing judiciary system, expanding the freedom of movement and emigration. In conclusion, he thanked the Czechoslovak people for their solidarity with Libya in the struggle for justice and progress.

Jakes Sends Condolences on Al-Wazir Death
*LD182007 Prague Domestic Service in Czech
1500 GMT 18 Apr 88*

[Text] Milos Jakes, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, sent a telegram of condolences to PLO Executive Committee chairman Yasir 'Arafat regarding the terrorist act in which Khalil al-Wazir—also known by the name Abu Jihad—commander of the PLO armed forces, was killed.

The telegram says that the Czechoslovak peoples deeply respect and understand the firm and irreversible will of the people of Palestine to achieve indispensable international rights, national self-determination, and the creation of their own independent state. It also expressed the solidarity of the CSSR with the heroic fight of the Palestinian people, assuring them of its lasting and all-round support.

CPCZ, CPSL District Conferences Continue

Jakes Urges Central Bohemian Changes
*LD181646 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak
1600 GMT 18 Apr 88*

[Text] Milos Jakes, CPCZ Central Committee general secretary, put forward at the Central Bohemian Regional Party Committee session the proposal on behalf of the party Central Committee that Frantisek Hanus, who was elected secretary and member of the Central Committee Secretariat at the ninth session of the CPCZ Central Committee, be released from office as Presidium member of the Secretariat and leading secretary of the Central Bohemian regional party committee. Comrade Jakes praised Frantisek Hanus' selfless work for the advancement of the Central Bohemian Region, his responsibility, scope of vision, and feeling for collective decision-making, which he displayed in all his offices.

Comrade Jakes also put forward a proposal to elect Josef Haman candidate Presidium member of the CPCZ Central Committee into the office of leading secretary of the regional party committee. He expressed the conviction that the rich experience that Comrade Haman gained in his party work, in particular as a secretary of the party Central Committee, will be utilized in the responsible office of leading secretary of the Central Bohemian regional party committee.

In a discussion, the regional committee members thanked Comrade Hanus for his work and expressed to him their full support and confidence.

At the end of the session, they released Comrade Frantisek Hanus from the offices in the regional party committee, made Comrade Josef Haman a member of the regional committee, and elected him a member of the Presidium of the Secretariat and a leading secretary of the Central Bohemian regional party committee.

Lenart Proposes Bratislava Changes

LD181744 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak
1630 GMT 18 Apr 88

[Text] The CPSL City Committee was in session in Bratislava today. On the basis of a proposal put forward by Comrade Jozef Lenart on behalf of our highest party bodies, it released from his post Gejza Slapka, the leading secretary, in connection with his election as a secretary of the CPSL Central Committee.

Appreciation was also expressed during the discussion for his contribution in the course of building and transforming Bratislava into a city of high efficiency and quality of all work.

Stefan Rybar was elected new leading secretary of the city party committee in Bratislava.

West Regional Secretary Elected

LD181310 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak
1030 GMT 18 Apr 88

[Text] The West Slovak Regional Committee of the CPSL met in Bratislava today. At the recommendation, presented by Comrade Ignac Janak, Comrade Ivan Knotek was released from the post of member of the Presidium, Secretariat, and leading secretary of the West Slovak Party Committee. The session elected Ondrej Saling the leading secretary of the West Slovak Regional Committee of the CPSL.

Jakes Speaks in Gottwaldov

LD172116 Prague Television Service in Czech
1730 GMT 17 Apr 88

[Excerpt] Today we report from Gottwaldov on the party's district conference.

[Announcer] First we will report on the discussion in Gottwaldov. It was critical and frank. The delegates discussed the speech by Comrade Jakes, who today, along with Comrade Vladimir Herman, was present at the proceedings. They stressed that the conclusions of the ninth session of the CPCZ Central Committee are being accepted with great confidence and enjoy support. Communists from the organizations in which experiments are underway spoke. Today the delegates spoke with Comrade Jakes during the break in the session. This provided us with an opportunity to speak with him.

[Correspondent] Comrade general secretary, I see that the discussion continues even during recess. In fact this atmosphere is characteristic of the proceedings. Despite this, I would like to ask how you assess the conference and the views that were expressed in the discussions and report?

[Jakes] Well, as far as the report is concerned, I think it was fair and critical. It was done in the spirit of the seventh and ninth sessions of the party Central Committee. As far as the discussion is concerned, this attitude also prevailed. I think the party members in this organization are reaching the proper conclusion that one has to be straight in assessing a situation, in a realistic way, and seek concrete solutions. This is the only way to get the party moving, as I said at the Central Committee session. Communists should hold their heads up high, go to the people and start to persuade and win them over to the party policy, and this means to work well. [passage omitted]

Prague Wrapup on Conferences

LD161514 Prague Domestic Service in Czech
1400 GMT 16 Apr 88

[Text] The CPCZ and CPSL conferences are continuing in 62 districts and in the Prague and Bratislava municipal boroughs with a discussion on the reports of district and municipal borough committees. The delegates are reaffirming in discussions that party members are aware of the demanding nature of the tasks of restructuring the economic mechanism and the life of society, which requires the development of intra-party life, a deepening of its contacts with people, and enhancement of its influence in all spheres of social life.

Discussion at the conference in Prague 2 district centers mainly at eliminating the obstacles which are hampering the smooth process of restructuring. Discussion at the Ostrava city party conference is marked by targeting criticism at its own ranks, revealing reserves, and by issuing targeted tasks.

Communists from individual enterprises, cooperatives and plants are outlining in specific terms the tasks of the restructuring of the economic mechanism at the Dunajska Streda district conference. Participants in the discussion at the district conference in Most are aiming for a speedier and more vigorous application of new attitudes and new thinking.

Delegates at the Gottwaldov conference used the lunch break for frank, business-like conversations with Milos Jakes, head of the CPCZ Central Committee delegation and party general secretary. In the forefront of their discussion were economic issues, acceleration of the restructuring of the economic mechanism, and the problems of direct and informal work with people.

Further Report

LD171655 Prague CTK in English
1612 GMT 17 Apr 88

[Text] Prague April 17 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Communist Party conferences took place in 62 Czechoslovak districts, including Prague and Bratislava, during this weekend.

The conferences were attended by delegations of the Party Central Committee led by the general secretary, members and alternate members of the Central Committee Presidium, chairman of the Central Control and Audit Commission, secretaries and members of the Party Central Committee Secretariat and other officials.

A characteristic feature of these significant party meetings was the centering of attention on improving the work of party bodies and organizations and strengthening the leading role of the party in the process of restructuring, on linking the present tasks of the socio-economic development with the introduction of economic reforms and deepening of socialist democracy. The conferences confirmed wide support for the conclusions of the 7th and 9th Party Central Committee sessions.

Besides appreciating the results achieved in the past period, the delegates critically pointed out the shortcomings in the activity of party, state, economic and social bodies and organizations which weaken the struggle for the consistent implementation of the tasks of restructuring of society.

The leading party officials attending the district conferences in their addresses stressed the need for restructuring the party work according to the conclusions of the 7th and 9th Central Committee sessions. In the forthcoming period it will be necessary to further increase the action-ability of the party and strengthen its unity, to fully apply the Leninist principles of the inner-party life and deepen its unity with the people. This is a necessary precondition for the party to stand in the lead of the changes in all spheres of society, they stressed.

Great attention was paid to the course of restructuring of the economic mechanism, particularly in connection with the new arrangement of central bodies and the organizational structure of state enterprises. The new, more rational internal arrangement with a substantial reduction of the number of employees will require a change of the contents, style and methods of work of all steering bodies.

The restructuring of society and preparation for new conditions of economy must be nevertheless seen in close context with the implementation of the economic tasks of the 8th five-year plan (1986-90), particularly of its decisive year—1988. The development of the national economy and implementation of the state plan to date show that there are still serious problems and shortcomings. Therefore it is necessary to further increase efforts to intensify Czechoslovakia's economy, the leading party officials stressed in their speeches.

Evaluating the present international situation, they emphasized the significance of the joint coordinated peace effort of the socialist countries to remove the threat of nuclear war, to ensure peace and progress in the world. Czechoslovakia unconditionally supports this

line, in harmony with the conclusions of the 17th party congress, and contributes to it by its initiatives, the heads of the party Central Committee delegations stressed.

The delegates to the conferences voiced full support for the peace effort of the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia and other socialist states and appreciated the proposal of Party General Secretary Milos Jakes to create a zone of confidence, cooperation and good neighborly relations on the line dividing the Warsaw Treaty and NATO states.

Party conferences in the remaining Czechoslovak districts will take place on April 23-24.

Czech National Council Meets in Prague

Discusses Industry Development

LD120954 Prague Domestic Service in Czech
1630 GMT 11 Apr 88

[Text] The 2-day session of the Czech National Council started in Prague today. Vaclav Klement reports:

[Klement] The afternoon session, which was chaired by Josef Kempny, chairman of the Czech National Council, was preceded by an extensive survey carried out by deputies in 30 organizations of all branches of the Ministry of Industry of the Czech SR, and its results gave a true picture of the state of this sphere. On the agenda of the session was a report of the Czech government on the basic questions of the further development of industry. Minister Petr Hojer, who delivered the report in his address, noted that despite all the measures adopted in the period 1986-1987, the tasks set by the plan were not fully achieved. The implementation of the adopted programs and measures did not influence in a fundamental way the growth of the resort's output. One of the decisive causes of the constant decrease of production utilization was seen in an obsolete production equipment base together with an obsolete structure of production. There have also been many shortcomings in the managerial and organizational work of senior staff in the entire structure of management, including the ministry itself. We have selected from the speech of Minister of Industry Petr Hojer:

[Begin Hojer recording] The proposed strategy of development of the sphere of the Ministry of Industry of the Czech SR will be carried out in conditions of the new economic mechanism. This system will increase the independence and responsibility of individual organizations for effective development; anchor self-financing of organizations; and establish new relations between trade, foreign and home trade, and other branches of the national economy. It will inspire new approaches to the solution of the scientific-technical development and investment building while increasing the concept-character of management of central organs. But, by bringing financial autonomy and effective forms of material

incentives to places of work, it will increase the workers' interest in the result of work and will evoke the necessary working activity as has been already shown by the first results of the experiment. The process of renewal of dynamics in individual spheres of the industry of the Czech SR, in harmony with the comprehensive restructuring of the economic mechanism, requires a significant improvement in the quality of managerial work at all levels from the ministry to enterprises. This is why people who are politically and professionally qualified with relevant experience, able to fulfill the demands of the intensification, the implementation of scientific-technical knowledge, and socialist enterprise will be selected for managerial posts. [end recording]

[Klement] It emerges clearly from the report that the main task of the proposed strategy is to increase the capacity of the production base of Czech industry, to achieve better satisfaction of the needs of the internal market, to increase effective participation in the international division of labor in order for the sphere to become a stabilizing link of the national economy.

Jan Kolacny, a committee rapporteur, then spoke about the results of the survey carried out by deputies. He noted that the urgency of solving all the problems is heightened by the fact that the results of the activities of Czech industry significantly influence not only the economy of our republic and the whole federation but also the satisfaction of our working people in their needs. He said in particular:

[Begin Kolacny recording] In a number of surveys, deputies of the Czech National Council were able to familiarize themselves with the problems of production, the state of production means, and issues of working and social conditions in those spheres. Most of the knowledge gained in this way is not joyful—the unsatisfactory development in some spheres is felt by every one of us at the home market, as was stressed in the report; 16 percent of the total volume of production was sent to the home market last year, and industry, by deliveries to the home market, covered 30 percent of the total retail trade turnover of consumer goods.

The offer of goods for sale on the home market—poor in models, finish, and color, is not a good advertisement for Czech SR industry, despite its past good reputation. [end recording]

[Klement] Twelve deputies asked to speak in the debate on the report on the development of Czech industry. Today's discussion indicated that the contents of the report are constructive and that in order to achieve the necessary turn for the better, Czech industry must implement the set goals in a planned manner step by step. The session of the Czech National Council will continue tomorrow.

Kempny Chairs Debate

LD122304 Prague Domestic Service in Czech
0900 GMT 12 Apr 88

[excerpt] The ninth session of the Czech National Council continues in the Palace of Culture in Prague today with a further debate on the Czech government's report on the development of industry. The meeting is chaired by Josef Kempny, member of the Presidium of the CPCZ Central Committee and chairman of the Czech National Council, with Ladislav Adamec, member of the Presidium of the CPCZ Central Committee and Czech premier, and other guests present. [passage omitted]

600,000 Sign Petition for Religious Freedom

AU190837 Vienna KURIER in German
16 Apr 88 p 3

[Text] Despite personal risk, more than 600,000 people in the CSSR have already signed a petition for more religious freedom there. On Friday [15 April] the European Parliament condemned the persecution of Christians in Slovakia. A round of talks between the Prague Government and the Vatican on appointments of bishops ended in Rome on Friday [15 April].

Colotka Receives Catholic Clergymen

AU181201 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak
13 Apr 88 p 2

[CTK report: "Meeting With Representatives of the Catholic Clergy; Constructive Approach to the Solution of Problems"]

[Text] Bratislava—Miroslav Valek, minister of culture of the Slovak SR, met with representatives of the Catholic clergy in Slovakia in Bratislava yesterday [12 April].

The meeting was attended by Doctor of Theology Jozef Feranec, chairman of the College of Ordinaries in Slovakia and bishop of Banská Bystrica; Doctor of Theology Jan Pasztor, bishop of Nitra; capitular vicars and doctors of Theology Stefan Onderko and Stefan Garaj; Jan Sokol, acting administrator of the Trnava archdiocese; Jan Hirka, ordinary of the Greek Orthodox Church; deacon Jan Zabak, chairman of the Pacem in Terris Association of Catholic Clergy in the Slovak SR; and leading representatives of the institutions of the Roman Catholic Church.

In an open dialogue, which was held in an atmosphere of mutual understanding, they discussed issues of study at the faculty of theology, study abroad by clergy for the completion of theological education, the publication and importing of religious literature, the teaching of religion and ensuring charitable care for superannuated priests and nuns.

The participants in the meeting were also received by Peter Colotka, premier of the Slovak SR.

In a discussion, he valued the goodwill of both sides to resolve open problems with understanding for the need to ensure the religious life of believing citizens. He stressed the responsible and constructive approach of the present representatives of churches and the Pacem in Terris Association of Catholic Clergymen in the Slovak SR to the creation of good relations between the Czechoslovak state and the Roman Catholic Church. He expressed the conviction that these relations of mutual understanding, respect, and trust will—through a joint effort—continue to strengthen and improve.

The regrettable, illegal activities to exert pressure, stimulated by malevolent propaganda from abroad, are greatly at variance with the constructive approach of the official church representatives and state agencies, and at variance with the interests and needs of churches and believers. The organizers [of these activities] are trying to misuse religious feeling for clearly political, anti-Czechoslovak objectives. The purpose of these activities is to make fellow citizens who are believers oppose the policy of our state, to erode the unity of our people and nations, and complicate the solution of topical issues between the church and the state. Last, but not least, the authors of these disruptive activities are harming our nations by giving foreign propaganda tools which are hostile to us—the reactionary press and radio—the pretext to slander our fatherland.

The premier of the Slovak SR said further: "We [single set of quotation marks as published] greatly value the selfless work of believers, their contribution to our common feat, their participation in the construction and development of socialism. The leadership of our Communist Party and of our state orients the energy of workers, cooperative farmers, and members of the intelligentsia, of everyone—regardless of nationality, political affiliation, social group, differences in weltanschauung—toward the acceleration of social development. It is an effort aimed at fulfilling the principles of social justice, at further improving people's lives—not only in the sphere of material consumption, but also regarding their education and cultural development, at the growth and assertion of man's creative abilities, at making interpersonal relations nobler in the moral sphere. This is why we have begun to implement the restructuring of the economic mechanism and of other spheres of social life. This is why we put such stress on the development of socialist democracy, on our citizens' increased participation in administration and management, so that their status as managers and masters, as creators and users of values [hodnoty], would come to the fore even more prominently.

We are convinced that in this effort we have and will continue to have the help and support of all patriotic clergymen and church officials, who have the people's well-being at heart. This is also our joint contribution to the great historical struggle to avert the catastrophe of war, to reduce and completely eliminate the arsenals of

nuclear and chemical weapons, for disarmament. We are pleased with the first and hopeful results of the immense effort of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries, as well as of peace-loving mankind, for a safe and peaceful world. And, together with you, we realize our civic and moral duty to keep on contributing to this by our work for the benefit of our Czechoslovak socialist fatherland and all our working people.

Expressing thanks for the reception, Doctor of Theology Jozef Feranec, chairman of the College of Ordinaries in Slovakia and bishop of Banská Bystrica, said that this meeting is a display of goodwill to establish good mutual relations through a dialogue and not through demonstrations, and to fill our social and international life with a pure, peaceful atmosphere. In the name of the church societies, clergymen, and believers he gave an assurance that they will help the creative healing process for better understanding by means of honest attitudes, hard work, and an active peace effort. He described the solution of issues in the church-social sphere as a great contribution to peace activity and to putting malevolent pharisees out of action at home and abroad.

Statistics Office on 1987 Population Figures
LD051139 Prague CTK in English
1025 GMT 5 Apr 88

[Text] Prague April 5 (CTK)—Czechoslovakia had a population of 15,587,068 at the end of 1987, the Demographic Department of the Federal Office of Statistics has said in a report, adding that the number of Czechoslovakia's inhabitants rose by 34,400 last year (27,900 in Slovakia), which was the lowest growth since 1945.

In the Czech Socialist Republic, the number of inhabitants dropped in the central, west and east Bohemian regions and the biggest growth was recorded in Prague and the North Moravian Region. Prague's population totalled 1,206,098 at the end of 1987. In the Slovak Socialist Republic, the number of inhabitants rose in all regions with the biggest rise recorded in the East Slovak Region.

The gradual decline in the population rise is due mainly to fewer births. Last year's 214,505 births was the lowest number in the 70-year history of Czechoslovakia. This also reflects new laws on abortion. A total of 183,345 abortions were performed last year, i.e. 34,000 more than in 1986.

A good feature in the population development was a drop in deaths—last year's 179,402 was the lowest number since 1979. The death rate of newborn babies and infants also dropped.

Unfavourable was the growth of divorces—a record of 39,522 couples were divorced last year. The most usual causes of divorces are marriage at young age, insufficient psychic maturity and consequent irresponsibility to marriage and parenthood.

May Day Demonstration by Exit-Seekers Feared
DW181040 Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German
18 Apr 88 pp 16-17

[Unattributed article: "Red Carnations Against the SED"]

[Text] GDR security authorities have developed a fantastic scenario to help their state and party leadership to enjoy a quiet "labor day." The SED fears that on May Day there will be a new wave of demonstrations by exit-seekers and civil rights advocates. The SED has the nightmare that those seeking exit permits and dissidents by the thousands could use the workers class demonstrations all over the country to display banners on behalf of their own goals, which are hostile to the classes. In order to decrease the troublemaker's, potential, the GDR Defense Ministry—for the first time in GDR history—has moved up the day to draft conscripts. This time the conscripts will be drafted between 27 and 29 April—including 300 total objectors, of whom almost everybody has applied for exit permits, and whom the authorities consider to be the hard core of the expected holiday troublemakers. However, the measure will be of little help to the SED. Proclamations are already being circulated in the GDR provinces among exit-seekers to assemble on May Day in East Berlin. The recognition signal is to be a red carnation with barbed wire.

FRG's Genscher To Speak in Potsdam in June
LD142340 Hamburg DPA in German
1314 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Excerpt] Bonn (DPA)—Federal Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher plans to inaugurate his first foreign affairs appearance in the GDR with a speech in Potsdam on security policy at the beginning of June. Diplomatic circles in Bonn confirmed on Thursday a report from the daily DIE WELT according to which Genscher has been invited to a conference in Potsdam not by the GDR directly but by the renowned U.S. "Institute for East-West Security Studies."

The conference itself from 9 to 11 June is also a first for the GDR. Among the participants are American and European politicians and journalists as well as the heads of leading international institutes for political and strategic research. [passage omitted]

Honecker Sends Condolences to 'Arafat
LD181402 East Berlin ADN International Service
in German 1317 GMT 18 Apr 88

[Text] Berlin, 18 Apr (ADN)—Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR Council of State, conveyed his deepest sympathy to Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestine revolutionary forces, on the treacherous murder of Khalil al-Wazir.

Erich Honecker paid tribute to Khalil al-Wazir as a genuine Palestinian patriot who had used all his strength for the fulfillment of his people's legitimate rights.

In the telegram, the people of the GDR's firm solidarity with the just struggle of the PLO is reasserted.

Honecker Congratulates Yang Shangkun
AU121800 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND
in German 9-10 Apr 88 p 1

[ND report: "Erich Honecker Congratulates New PRC President"]

[Text] East Berlin (ND)—Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, has sent the following telegram to Yang Shangkun, member of the CPC Central Committee Politburo, who was elected as the new president of the PRC on Friday [8 April]:

Esteemed Comrade Yang Shangkun, on your election to the high position of president of the PRC I convey cordial congratulations to you on behalf of the SED Central Committee, the State Council, and the people of the GDR as well as on my own behalf.

I can state with great pleasure and satisfaction that the traditional relations of friendship and cooperation between our parties, states, and peoples in the interest of strengthening socialism and safeguarding world peace are developing and strengthening steadily.

The communists and all working people of the GDR are deeply convinced that under the leadership of its Communist Party the Chinese people will score new successes in implementing the historic resolutions of the 13th CPC Congress, for the flourishing of socialist China.

I wish you good health, well-being, and creative energy for your responsible activity.

Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council.

Flegel Visits Mongolia for Official Talks
AU111540 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND
in German 9-10 Apr 88 p 6

[Text] Ulaan Baatar (ADN)—On Friday [8 April] Dumaagiyn Sodnom, member of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party [MPRP] Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Mongolian People's Republic, received Manfred Flegel, deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers and chairman of the GDR State Contract Court, for a talk. It focused on the results and tasks in implementing the decisions of the 19th MPRP Congress and the 11th SED [Socialist Unity Party of Germany] Congress.

Danish Premier Cancels Planned Visit

*LD190942 East Berlin ADN International Service
in German 0208 GMT 19 Apr 88*

[Text] Berlin, 19 Apr (ADN)—With reference to the domestic policy situation which has arisen in Denmark, Danish Prime Minister Poul Schluter has sent a message saying that to this great regret he is unable to pay the official visit to the GDR planned for this week since the government parties suffered a defeat last week in the Danish Parliament in connection with the discussion of security issues. It is expected that new elections will be held in Denmark.

Daily on SED, SPD, CPCZ Joint Statement

*AU081332 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND
in German 7 Apr 88 p 2*

["NG" commentary: "Rid Europe and the World of Chemical Weapons!"]

[Text] To rid Europe from chemical weapons as quickly as possible and at the same time to promote a worldwide ban on chemical weapons—this is the concern of the joint statement by SED, CPCZ, and SPD which was published by NEUES DEUTSCHLAND yesterday.

The three parties propose to the governments of the GDR, the CSSR, and the FRG to immediately start negotiations on ridding their territories of or keeping them free of chemical weapons. Those states that have deployed armed forces on their territory should participate in these negotiations. All other states of our continent could examine the possibility of their participation in this initiative and would thus acquire the right to inspect the zone.

This initiative of the two ruling parties in the GDR and the CSSR and the biggest opposition party in the FRG continues the joint efforts for chemical disarmament that go back to the years 1985-86. In the past these efforts were reflected in the document "Principles and Main Directions of Future Negotiations on the Creation of a Chemical-Weapons-Free Zone in Central Europe." So far such negotiations have not been started. They have repeatedly been prevented with the insinuation that regional solutions are unnecessary in view of the forthcoming ban on chemical weapons.

Over the past few months, however, it has become more and more obvious that, despite the impressive progress made, considerable problems have been encountered in the negotiations on a global ban on chemical weapons that have been going on since 1969 in Geneva within the

framework of the 40-state UN Disarmament Committee. Potential success has been hindered by the production of new U.S. chemical weapons since December 1987. It has also proved to be an obstacle that private U.S. producers of chemical weapons have refused to permit monitoring of their observance of a convention on banning chemical weapons. This suggests that the conclusion in 1988 of the hoped-for agreement on a worldwide ban on chemical weapons will be delayed.

In order not to lose any more time and in agreement with the security interests of the European peoples, the SED, CPCZ, and SPD have submitted the updated proposal for a chemical-weapons-free zone in central Europe. As a step on the way to the worldwide destruction of chemical weapons, such a regional solution would help clarify issues that remain open concerning a global convention by means of practical experiences. It could be used as a pilot project. All this would have an effect far beyond Europe, since it combines regional and global security.

The three parties accord crucial importance to a binding statement of their states that chemical weapons must neither be produced nor acquired, nor be deployed or produced by other states on their territory or transported through their territory. Such a statement could be made immediately—not just in 1992 when the stockpiles of U.S. chemical weapons deployed in the FRG are supposed to be removed.

GDR-Polish Agriculture Ministers Meet

*AU131852 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND
in German 12 Apr 88 p 2*

[Text] East Berlin (ADN)—Stanislaw Zieba, PPR minister of agriculture, forestry, and food industry, arrived on a visit of several days in Berlin on Monday [11 April] at the invitation of Bruno Lietz, GDR minister of agriculture, forestry, and foodstuffs. To begin with, the ministers briefed each other about agrarian-political questions and about the stage of spring agricultural activity in their countries. Bruno Lietz and his guest made a first interim stock-taking assessment of the protocol on cooperation between the two ministries signed in Warsaw in 1987.

During his stay in the GDR, Minister Zieba will become acquainted with the scientific facilities in LPG and VEB to intensify agricultural operations and animal breeding. Of special interest are key technologies, especially in the area of biotechnology and microelectronics. The Polish minister of agriculture will also visit projects aimed at a rational utilization of energy in agriculture, forestry, and foodstuffs.

USSR's Ryzhkov Continues Official Visit 18 Apr

Begins Talks With Grosz

LD181101 Budapest MTI in English 1028 GMT
18 Apr 88

[Text] Budapest, April 18 (MTI)—Monday morning the Hungarian-Soviet plenary prime ministerial talks commenced in the Budapest Parliament under Prime Minister Karoly Grosz and Nikolay Ryzhkov. The Hungarian negotiating group includes Jozsef Marjai, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, minister of trade, Frigyes Berecz, minister of industry, Gyula Horn, under-secretary of state at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Lajos Berenyi, vice-president of the National Planning Office, and Sandor Rajnai, Hungarian ambassador to Moscow. The members of the Soviet delegation are Aleksey Antonov, deputy prime minister, Nikolay Pugin, minister of the automobile industry, Anatoliy Kovaljov, first deputy minister of foreign affairs, Anatoliy Lukashov, vice-president of the planning office, and Boris Stukalin, ambassador of the Soviet Union to Hungary.

Meets With Grosz, Marjai

LD181833 Budapest MTI in English 1715 GMT
18 Apr 88

[Text] Budapest, April 18 (MTI)—As it was reported earlier, the Hungarian-Soviet plenary prime ministerial negotiations started in the parliament building of Budapest on Monday with Karoly Grosz and Nikolay Ryzhkov in the chair.

The Hungarian negotiating party included Jozsef Marjai, deputy prime minister and minister of trade, Frigyes Berecz, minister of industry, Gyula Horn, state secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Lajos Berenyi, deputy president of the national planning office, and Sandor Rajnai, Hungarian ambassador to the Soviet Union. On the Soviet side Aleksey Antonov, deputy prime minister, Nikolay Pugin, minister of the car industry, Anatoliy Kovalev, first deputy of the minister of foreign affairs, Anatoliy Lukashov, deputy chairman of the State Planning Committee, and Boris Stukalin, Soviet ambassador to Hungary, were present.

The meeting which extended well over the planned timetable into the early afternoon was held in an informal atmosphere. The Hungarian and Soviet negotiating parties briefed one another on the internal situation of their countries and evaluated the development of bilateral relations.

Nikolay Ryzhkov, analysing the three years' period of perestroika, emphasized that despite the early difficulties the first results of the persistent reform steps are already appearing at all levels of social life. The upgrading of economic management and production are highlighted by such milestones as the law on socialist enterprises, the preparation of the law on cooperatives, and

the introduction of the new self-accounting system. Since January 1 this year, sixty per cent of the companies have shifted to the new system of accounting. Based on the achieved results, the perestroika, reaching its second phase, demands first of all the further development of democracy, the policy offering active participation for the wide range of people. The extension of democracy and strengthening of openness are at the same time preconditions for economic development.

In the spirit of the party conference to be held in the near future, the Soviet Communists are preparing for summarizing the results of perestroika, evaluating the country's situation and determining the next tasks, said Nikolay Ryzhkov.

Karoly Grosz informed the guest on the time-proportional accomplishment of the stabilization and advancement program of Hungary. Speaking on the development of Hungary's economic performance, he emphasized the fundamental importance of the relations maintained with the Soviet Union. Accordingly, Hungary strives for expanding and deepening its contacts with its number one trading partner, the Soviet Union.

To reach this end such new forms should be adopted in the relations, which meet the increasing and upgraded requirements of the two countries. In accordance with our Soviet partner, we promote the elaboration of the long-term concept of technical and scientific cooperation, the direct cooperation of the companies and the foundation of joint ventures. It is also a common effort to upgrade the CMEA organization, to further develop multifold cooperation and integration between the socialist countries in agreement with the development directives adopted at the 43rd session of the international organization. Until these long-term goals are attained, primarily the bilateral relations offer opportunity for asserting the requirements of advanced cooperation.

Delivers Dinner Speech

PM191227 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Apr 88
Second Edition p 4

[TASS report on speech by Nikolay Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, at 18 April dinner given by Karoly Grosz, chairman of the Council of Ministers, in Budapest; published under the headline "In a Friendly Atmosphere"]

[Text] Karoly Grosz, chairman of the Hungarian Council of Ministers, gave an official dinner in the Parliament building today in honor of Nikolay Ryzhkov, USSR Council of Ministers chairman. Karoly Grosz made a speech.

A speech was then given by Nikolay Ryzhkov. He said:

Dear Comrade Grosz! Dear Hungarian friends! Comrades!

I would like to express sincere gratitude to the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party and the Government of the Hungarian People's Republic for the invitation to visit fraternal Hungary. Since the first moments of our stay in your beautiful capital, Budapest, we have sensed an atmosphere of friendly disposition and hospitality.

This magnificent building of the Hungarian Parliament has witnessed many historic events which have been significant not only for Hungary itself. It was here, in September 1967, that the principles and objectives of the fraternal alliance between our countries, which were laid down 4 decades ago in the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance between the Soviet Union and Hungary, became further developed. The common nature of the fundamental interests of our countries has enabled them to join closely their efforts in the most important sphere, that of building a new life and of reaffirming peace in Europe and throughout the world.

The meetings, exchange of experience, and the varied forms of cooperation at the leadership level and between labor collectives and citizens have been durably woven into the fabric of fraternal relations between our countries. A distinctive feature of our contacts has been their meaningfulness and their businesslike, creative, and frank nature. It is precisely in this atmosphere that the meeting between M.S. Gorbachev and J. Kadar are held. They point our countries toward a joint search for responses to the challenges of the times, and toward new problems of renewal that are as yet unsolved by the practice of socialism.

Working in this direction today, too, we are convinced of the necessity of working together to bring to light the fresh opportunities inherent in the socialist order for the healthy development of its economy and social relations, and for restoration and formation of the loftiest and most humane moral, ethical, and spiritual norms. Herein lies the profound internal community of the tasks the Soviet and Hungarian peoples are resolving, taking all national conditions into account.

Today, on the eve of the anniversary of the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum, which initiated restructuring, one cannot fail to touch upon matters relating to the revolutionary transformation of the life of society in our country. On the basis of a realistic and, it should be frankly stated, stern critical analysis of our achievements, difficulties, and mistakes, we built up the fundamental bases of the policy of renewal. Renewal is spreading throughout society, to all spheres of its activity. A serious and honest discussion of this is already under way today in the newspapers, in workshops, on farms, and in the family circle. The very tone, meaning, and nature of this conversation is the guarantee that restructuring will receive fresh stimuli from all directions. It is in diversity of opinion and in discussions that the new thinking necessary for revolutionary restructuring is engendered.

Now our party and country have entered in earnest the second stage of restructuring, at the heart of which lie radical economic reform and a comprehensive democratization of social and political life. The theoretical and political platform for restructuring worked out by the party is being actively transformed into real deeds. More than half of our industry is now working in new conditions of management. A law on state enterprises has come into force which enlivens the life of labor collectives, unfetters their creative activity, and teaches them to be independent and responsible. A nationwide discussion has started in the country on the draft Law on Cooperative Movement in the USSR, revitalizing the Leninist principles of the cooperative movement in conditions of socialism. Unjustified limitations on the individual labor activity of the people have been removed. There is the beginning of a change toward a speedier development of the material basis of the whole social sphere of society, and the most pressing problems of our life are being solved: housing, food, and the provision of goods and services to the people.

Of course, all this is not happening without difficulty, but we can see how the situation is changing, how the whole of our society is beginning to move, and that is the main guarantee that restructuring will bring people real benefits and changes for the better in their living and working conditions. We are by no means enclosed within our own context, and are open to take in the general achievements of mankind. Of course, there is a particular value for us in everything that has been achieved by our friends from the socialist countries in the development of a new society. We know that Hungary more than once took on herself the difficult role of trailblazer of nonstandard decisions.

Of course, there are not and cannot be universal recipes and ready-made formulas in the practice of building socialism, but there is one thing that is new, that is a genuine advance, born in the living practice of each fraternal country. Of course, there is—inevitably—not only the experience of achievements, but also the experience of warnings, but all of this demands serious unprejudiced interpretation, based on the necessity of getting onto a qualitatively higher level of social development.

Therefore, with goodwill and respect, Soviet people are following how our Hungarian friends' affairs are going, and have an attitude of understanding toward the efforts of the communists and working people of Hungary who are implementing the program of socioeconomic stabilization and development. We highly appreciate the Hungarian public's support for the course of restructuring in the Soviet Union.

Life itself prompts the need to enrich with new, with more effective and reliable forms the all-around cooperation of our countries, based on genuinely comradely equality. Today our cooperation is not an abstract concept, but a reality for every Hungarian and every Soviet

person. Expansion of contacts among people, easing of reciprocal trips—these are also signs of our times. Fresh opportunities for visiting relatives, for leisure and treatment, for youth tourism will be opened up by the document that will be signed during the visit. Whatever field of our relations we look at, we find there are quite a few achievements. Each meeting of the scientific and creative intelligentsia of our countries is a notable event. We support the further unification of intellectual potentials.

In our conviction, it is necessary to continue to persistently search for ways of deepening the integration processes, further improving the system of exchange of experience, and coordinating foreign policy activity.

Progressive forms of cooperation are increasingly moving to the foreground in Soviet-Hungarian economic relations. Industrial coproduction is gathering strength, direct ties between production and scientific research collectives are expanding, the first joint enterprises are operating. The viability of this sort of mutual link is obvious. We can also clearly see the difficulties in our cooperation. These are to some extent inevitable in conditions where the national economy is being transferred to an intensive path of development and the economic management system and the structure of production are being restructured. It is in our common interest to renew and adjust the mechanisms of cooperation between our countries. Without this, we will not be able to go forward. We hope our current talks will enable a new step in this direction to be made.

Undoubtedly, not all problems can be solved on a bilateral basis. A fundamental renewal of the activity of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance is required. There is mutual understanding on this between us and our Hungarian friends. We must move forward step by step and persistently to the planned goal—the renewal of our ties within the framework of CEMA.

The paths for restructuring the cooperation mechanism and for socialist economic integration, and also the paths for the work of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance itself, were mapped out at the last CEMA session, and it is our job to implement by joint efforts the decisions which have been adopted. I think that Hungary, with its rich experience in the sphere of international economic ties, will continue to make a weighty contribution to the resolution of our common problems, including those which today are complicating the economic development of the countries of the community.

In essence there is no dividing line between the internal and the external aspect of renewal. Their essence and unity lie in the fact that the ideology of restructuring—the new political thinking—means a search for ways to constantly perfect socialism, and to bring out its mission

of transformation. Just as there is no alternative to socialist renewal, neither is there an alternative to the new political thinking—such is our response to the call of the times.

It is profoundly logical that both our countries, along with other states of the socialist community, should be initiators of new ideas in international life and the formation of an all-embracing system of international peace and security. There is a need for collective reason and efforts from the world community, to break free of the vicious circle of confrontation and the arms' race, to tear up the stereotypes of prejudice and hostility, and build relations in a civilized way by putting the priority on general human values and international law. In both our internal and our foreign policy we are a party of humanism, law and order and democracy.

We propose to all states—large, medium, and small—that they should take part on an equal footing in transforming international relations in accordance with the ideals and principles of the United Nations Organization. We counter the concepts of deterrence by nuclear and other arms with the honorable idea, which everyone can understand, of mutual respect and a balance of interests, and the affirmation of glasnost and openness in international affairs. Here lies the essence of an all-embracing system of security with a multifaceted character. It must be created in all spheres, be it disarmament, regional conflicts, world economic links, the preservation of the environment, the defense of human rights or the development of humanitarian cooperation.

The treaty on eliminating intermediate- and shorter-range missiles embodies the potential for a new political thinking. We favor the conclusion, already at the upcoming Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in Moscow, of an agreement on a 50-percent reduction in strategic offensive arms with observance of the ABM Treaty as it was signed in 1972 and without departing from it during the course of an agreed-upon period of time.

As is known, your country has done quite a lot to humanize international relations. It is with understanding that we regard Hungary's initiatives to develop positive processes in the world as a whole and, in particular, on the continent of Europe. "A pan-European home" can and should be built only by the collective effort of all, on the basis of social choice made by them. The Vienna meeting, which has come really close toward adopting important decisions, has resumed recently. The Soviet delegation has a clear instruction to work, cooperating closely with the delegations of all socialist, as well as other countries, toward filling all three Helsinki baskets with contents that matter, toward deepening and developing the all-European dialogue and toward a constructive conclusion of the meeting.

We are profoundly convinced that the security of Europe must be sought not by means of upgrading armaments, but in the directly opposite direction, through bringing

the military potentials down to the lowest possible level corresponding to the requirements of sufficiency and of nonoffensive defense, and in eliminating asymmetry by causing those who have more to make reductions. The time has come to go over to successful negotiations on the actual reduction of armed forces and conventional weapons from the Atlantic to the Urals. These aims would be assisted by the conducting of an exchange of data in the very near future on the armed forces and conventional arms of the member-countries of the two alliances in Europe as a whole, country by country, as well as region by region.

The principle-based position of the Warsaw Pact countries, as recently confirmed at the Sofia session of the Foreign Ministers Commission, is as clear as can be: to overcome the division of Europe into confronting military blocs and, by way of the first step, to eliminate their military organizations. Moreover, as the Soviet side has already stated, we would, in general, like for all military bases in foreign territories to be eliminated and for troops to return to within the bounds of their own national borders.

No one's security will be strong if it is limited to the scale of any one continent. A graphic example of the policy of new thinking in action are the recently signed Geneva agreements on Afghanistan. On 15 May, the Soviet Union will begin the withdrawal of its troops from that country, whose people will solve their own internal problems themselves through national reconciliation. Friendly relations with that country and respect for its sovereignty. These have been our fundamental lines since the times of V.I. Lenin.

The improvement of international relations would undoubtedly be served by the earliest possible settlement of the Middle East conflict on the basis of the balance of interests of all states and peoples of the region through the mechanism of an international conference. In our day, it is quite intolerable that for nearly 10 years now blood has been flowing on the fronts of the Iran-Iraq war. Energetic efforts by the world community, in keeping with the decisions of the UN Organization, are needed to untie this bleeding knot.

We highly appreciate the fact that in international questions, as well, we and our Hungarian friends have complete mutual understanding. Hungary's active position in world affairs, its weighty contribution to our joint efforts in promoting the coordinated foreign policy initiatives of the Warsaw Pact member states, are welcomed in the Soviet Union.

Approaching the 19th All-Union Party Conference—that major event in the life of the CPSU and entire Soviet people—we fully realize, at the same time, the exclusive importance and responsibility of the tasks being resolved by Hungarian Communists in the course of preparations for the coming all-Hungarian conference of the MSZMP. We are sincerely convinced that optimal

decisions will be found at that conference which will correspond in the greatest degree with today's requirements, with the aspirations of the Hungarian people.

Allow me to wish you, esteemed Comrade Grosz, and all the Hungarian comrades present here, success in your work for the good of socialist Hungary, good health, and prosperity.

Visits Tungsram Factory

*LD191008 Budapest MTI in English 0827 GMT
19 Apr 88*

[Text] Budapest, April 19 (MTI)—Tuesday morning Soviet Prime Minister Nikolay Ryzhkov, currently on an official friendly visit in Hungary, paid a visit to the Budapest factory of the Tungsram Co. Ltd. in the company of his host, Karoly Grosz, chairman of the Council of Ministers.

The high-ranking guests were welcomed by Frigyes Berecz, minister of industry. After the briefing of General Director Andras Gabor on the work of the long-standing factory, the guests were shown round the factory and the local museum.

Grosz Interviewed on Talks With Ryzhkov

*LD182128 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian
1715 GMT 18 Apr 88*

[Studio interview with Premier Karoly Grosz by Jamas Forro and Henrik Havas, from the "Firsthand Information" program—live; interviewers cannot be individually identified]

[Excerpts] [Question] Good evening. You are listening to the first of our new Monday evening political programs. We hope the title says it all: Today and in the future we want to bring to the microphone people who can give firsthand information about things that are important or unimportant, but in any case, things that are interesting and, above all, worthy of interest.

A program can never be good if its producers think they know exactly what interests the listener. That's why we're waiting for your calls at 387-304. We promise to follow up the good ideas and put them into effect, perhaps as soon as the next program. So our major expectation is not that you put your questions to our guests, but that you tell us what interests you. [passage omitted]

Our first guest on the first of the "Firsthand Information" programs is Premier Karoly Grosz. As soon as you were asked, you agreed to give firsthand information about your talks with Soviet Premier Ryzhkov, which began today. In your opinion, in the weeks and months ahead, will we have a regular opportunity to ask other authoritative persons to give firsthand answers to our questions? In other words, knowing your fellow leaders, will others be as flexible?

[Grosz] Well, I do not know if others will be as flexible, but I will certainly support their being flexible. I think it is very important for the public to get to know what is happening in the workshops of the administration. For this reason I am convinced that we serve a common and good cause if the leaders, no matter which sphere they work in, share their problems with people. In fact, there are no such issues about which it would not be possible to speak openly and frankly, with the exception of the few data which, let us say, belong to the sphere of maintaining secrecy. Apart from those, not only is it permitted to talk openly, directly and frankly about everything, but we must also do so.

[Question] The Hungarian press, at least this morning's papers, called Soviet Premier Nikolay Ryzhkov the premier of perestroika. On this basis, you could undoubtedly be described as the premier of resurgence and stabilization. This is your third meeting with your Soviet counterpart. Have you discovered any similarities in your working styles, and, if I may ask, what is your personal relationship like?

[Grosz] Well, Premier Ryzhkov is a very nice person. It is not difficult to develop a good relationship with him. The thing that may be identical in our working style is that our value judgments are influenced first and foremost by specific things, facts. His way of thinking is extraordinarily rational. His whole life has been spent in technological sciences and production work organization, and this shows in his administrative, or at least in his negotiating style. Let me put it like that, because it is very bold to pronounce a judgment from here on the working style of another premier. But as for his negotiating style, yes, all three meetings have given me an opportunity to follow his way of thinking very precisely, as well as the purposeful rationality with which he handles issues. We meet not to praise one another and to give an account of good things—our colleagues write all that in the newspapers—our job is to work on resolving problems, which requires open, direct speaking. Premier Ryzhkov is a very direct man.

[Question] Since you mentioned problems, I think that today the biggest problem in Hungarian-Soviet economic relations is the issue of our balance. After a long time the terms of trade have changed in our favor. This can be compensated for, dissolved, in two ways: One is for the Soviet Union to deliver greater quantities of things we need—energy sources, motor cars; the other is for it to cancel orders. This latter, I believe, we would not like very much, because in certain areas it could even result in a restriction of capacity; what is more, some people would say, even to partial unemployment. Does this issue come up in your discussions?

[Grosz] Well, if I were to simplify a thing like this very much, then I would have to say that these were the main topics which came up at the discussion. These very specific themes in our bilateral relations have occupied incomparably more time at the exchanges of views until

now than did world politics, or the social movements under way within our countries. This is understandable, too. Well, that is why we meet, among other reasons. At this moment our balance is not yet in the black. Well, we owe more than R400 million. There is a valued tendency here, which can be influenced by many things. We believe that we will close at around zero by the end of the year, or by the beginning of next year. Within this there is a question mark over an item of R200 million; the question mark is not over the item itself, but over what content will fill up the 200 million.

[Question] How does this usually happen? You sit opposite Nikolay Ryzhkov, and Deputy Premier Jozsef Marjai on your right brings forward a long list and reads our wishes, and on the other side there is also a piece of paper and they tick off the items one by one, yes or no? Is that how it is?

[Grosz] Well, it is both a little simpler and a little more complicated than that. It is simpler because this trip was preceded by two visits. National Planning Office Chairman Janos Hoos visited the chairman of the Soviet State Planning Committee last week for a 2-day consultation. They discussed a great many issues. I am not saying that they reached agreements; this was not their task, but they discussed them. Well, they have already had an exchange of views. Deputy Premier Jozsef Marjai also visited Moscow and had consultations with Deputy Premier Antonov. They reached agreement on several issues, while a number of issues remained open. Now, the way this goes is that Comrade Ryzhkov repeated their position, developed on the basis of consultations with his colleagues, and I listed ours.

Now, we have not yet reached agreement on everything. The number of topics has narrowed, but there are still disputed issues. One such disputed question is that of preliminary installments; how should this be done; whether we will take advantage of prolonged credit. We have now stated that we will not make use of it. Thus, the discussions are continuing on issues such as these. On two specific issues, the ZAZ [Zaporozhye Automobile Plant] program and the manufacture of pesticides, we have not yet reached agreement, though it is very important to do so. Consequently, we have asked our colleagues to continue the consultations today, tomorrow, if necessary during the night, and on Wednesday we will hold an extraordinary meeting at which we will hear their report.

[Question] This ZAZ program refers to the Zaporozhetsk, doesn't it?

[Grosz] Yes.

[Question] What is our position? Do we want it?

[Grosz] Yes, of course we do, we need the cars. By the way, this would mean 50,000 cars after 1991, if all goes well. Yet we now need 200,000 cars annually. Thus, we

really need this. Even if we succeed in realizing the other car programs—and we would very much like them to succeed; one of our leading colleagues is currently holding negotiations in Japan—we still need these cars. Now, these cars are not needed primarily so that we can sell 50,000 cars at home but because the delivery of components is of a much greater volume. Thus, it would mobilize and activate the entire components industry.

[Question] Premier Ryzhkov was appointed not very long ago, and you also count as a new Hungarian premier. I would like to ask: To what degree do the discussions between the Hungarian and Soviet premiers constitute the start of a new era? Hungarian specialist journals have often said—but it has been said in the National Assembly as well—that foreign circumstances also played a part in halting the Hungarian reform. The fraternal countries did not evaluate the Hungarian reform in the same way. By now a political process has taken place in the Soviet Union which is expressly favorable for the development of our reform process. Is it possible that you will discuss the events of the recent years at all?

[Grosz] Well, look, it is impossible to start a new era because history does not begin with the appearance of a new premier. All the present events and decisions have antecedents. Comrade Ryzhkov was very magnanimous today because during the conversation we got into a little debate about the construction program for the Paks power station. We shall be short of electricity between 1991 and 1994. He very kindly said that he remembered those negotiations when, years ago, he urged that we build not a 440-megawatt but a 1,000-megawatt power station, and it was we Hungarians who insisted on 440 megawatts. That is why we now had a problem, he said, because they were no longer making the 440-megawatt stations, and earlier we had not been willing to take the 1,000 megawatts, so they did not make it for us.

Well, we had a little dispute about this, and then Ryzhkov closed it in a very kind and lighthearted way by saying that we should leave the past, it led nowhere, we should look to the future, and they would examine the question of how they could help us during those 4 years to make up for our electricity shortfall. Because if we do not buy from that source, we have to buy it from a capitalist source, and that would cost much more.

Well, I have only mentioned this example to show that there is no such thing as a new era beginning today. What happened in the past, yesterday, and the day before yesterday, affects the present.

Now, regarding the question of reform, these discussions are not really suitable for us to hold great ideological debates on what has happened, why things happened, what they did, and what we thought, where we are right,

and where they were right. Here we are discussing very practical and specific matters, and at the same time, of course, there is a great deal of interest in each other's experiences.

Let me give you an example. I spoke about prices, the definite 15-percent rise in prices, which in our experience is rather high. Of course, it is low compared with Yugoslavia's 160 percent. However, it is high compared with the Soviet experience, because in the Soviet Union it is much lower, generally just a few percent. He expressed great interest in the price system, the price structure, and within this he was particularly interested in the movement of vegetable and fruit prices. I tried to explain it to him. And then he asked if we would be able to put down on paper the experiences of the movement of the price of fruit and vegetables over 5 or 10 years, with all the figures and statistics, because they are now thinking about introducing the same free price structure in the sphere of fruit and vegetable prices as exists in Hungary. Thus, this is not really a debate regarding the mechanism, but at the same time it is nevertheless a very important exchange of experiences.

[Question] But if Nikolay Ryzhkov had asked a Hungarian housewife, he might have gotten something different. Or is it certain Hungarian housewives agree with the Hungarian premier on everything?

[Grosz] Well, a Hungarian premier cannot think this about himself. On top of it, it would be a terrible thing if they did agree. The task of the premier—he is not alone in this—but among others the task of the premier is to represent some sort of overall societal interest. The interest of the housewife, on the other hand, is to demand the most perfect, optimal situation for her own kitchen. It is natural that she has a different opinion about a movement of 5, 8, or 10 percent in the price of vegetables than I have. This comes from the nature of the thing. The housewife is interested in today and, at the most, in tomorrow, and the day after tomorrow. If I were to exaggerate a little, I would say that she is interested in the period until the next payday. However, I must feel an obligation also to the period when my premiership is long since past, let us say the period after 1990 or 1995. Well, it comes from the nature of the work that there is a certain clash of interests between the present and the future, and this is something that has to be accepted.

[Question] You mentioned that during the discussions you also got into a dispute. All that we saw on television was that in the first minutes everyone was smiling, and then all the journalists, photographers, and television cameramen were sent out, the doors were closed, and only those sitting inside could know what happened afterward. So, what does happen on an occasion like this? Is there a sharp debate, or are the talks characterized by a polite tone?

[Grosz] There is a polite, tough debate. Everyone represents interests, national interests. Our guest represents the interests of the Soviet Union, and the Hungarian premier represents the interests of the Hungarian People's Republic. And since we have understood that there can be a fundamental difference in interests, it is natural that this manifests itself in the negotiations as well. However, do not imagine this as some sort of village inn where people slam their fists on the table and shout.

[Question] Has that ever happened?

[Grosz] Not since I have been premier. It may have happened at other times, I don't know, all I can talk about is what I have experienced in the last 10 months. I am lucky, I have had a chance to meet with many premiers during these 10 months, and I hope that I will have the same opportunity in the future. To the extent that I am familiar with the advance program, it seems to suggest this year will be rich in meetings. But I am not familiar with the quarrelling style of negotiation. However, firm, categorical opinions can also be expressed politely.

Now, of course, it is not a good thing either if the positions become rigid, become hedgehog positions; then a topic can give rise to prestige debates. In politics, just as in other spheres of public life, compromise is not an unknown concept. But, of course, crystal-clear interests, thought out in advance, must be represented in a very flexible manner, and if the situation demands it, then some concessions have to be made.

[Question] Are you on per tu [familiar form of address] terms?

[Grosz] No, though we have met on a number of occasions. There have been times when, in a small company, we chatted with each other in per tu terms, but this is not customary during official negotiations.

[Question] The banquet is taking place during our broadcast. Do you know what Ryzhkov's favorite dish is?

[Grosz] No, I do not know, but this isn't something that I have to know. It is the business of the chief of protocol to know this. But let me tell you quite frankly that I always advise my colleagues not to provide the guest's favorite dish but instead to serve really good Hungarian food. After all, he can have his favorite dish at home any time, but only in Budapest can he have good Hungarian dishes prepared by a good Hungarian cook.

[Question] Would you be very surprised if after this interview the next item on the radio program was an advertisement?

[Grosz] Well, it depends on the advertisement.

[Question] Let us say an ad for the State Insurance Company. Would it offend the premier?

[Grosz] It would not offend me. The State Insurance Company is a decent Hungarian enterprise. I said the same to the television people a few days ago. Let them be enterprising, let them seek out new resources. There is just one warning to all my colleagues and friends: They must not sell out their principles, their honor, for the profit of the enterprise. They must not forget that they are serving, not me, not the government, but society, the public good, and thus they must preserve a sense of proportion. That is all.

Foreign Affairs Secretary Ends Visit to GDR

*LD150821 Budapest MTI in English 1942 GMT
14 Apr 88*

[Text] Berlin, April 14 (MTI)—Gyula Horn, member of the HSWP CC and state secretary of foreign affairs, concluded his two-day visit to the GDR on Thursday.

Gyula Horn held talks with Herbert Krolikowski, state secretary of foreign affairs and member of the SUPG CC, and other leaders of the Foreign Ministry, and met Oskar Fischer, member of the SUPG CC and foreign minister, and senior representatives of the Foreign Affairs Department of the SUPG CC.

The parties briefed one another on the topical tasks of socialist construction and social and political development in the two countries, exchanged views on timely international affairs, the possibilities of intensifying the process of disarmament in Europe, the further steps required for the successful conclusion of the Vienna follow-up conference, and the ways of the negotiated settlement of local hotbeds of tension, and surveyed topical tasks in the comprehensive development of relations between the two countries.

Csehak Returns From Health Conference

*AU181118 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian
14 Apr 88 p 3*

[MTI report: "Budapest Will Host the Next World Conference on Health Care—Judit Csehak Has Returned From Australia"]

[Text] A Hungarian delegation led by Judit Csehak, minister of social welfare and health, which participated in the 2nd International Conference on Health Care held in Adelaide, Australia between 5-10 April, has returned home. At the conference, organized by the World Health Organization and the Australian Government, the participants reviewed economic policy measures to maintain public health. They stressed the importance of government management in health care activity.

The final document of the conference points out that the health of populations is an important economic factor, and economic policy measures also have a long-term effect on economic development. The document outlines the tasks aimed at working out a policy which promotes

healthy nutrition and ways to fight smoking. The participants considered support for women's health care and environmental protection to be important tasks.

Judit Csehak acted as vice president of the conference. The Hungarian delegation gave a lecture about the health care program in Hungary and the economic and social effects of this program. Budapest will host the next international conference of the health care movement in 1990, which will be an inter-regional conference entitled: "Working Out a Policy for Healthy Nutrition."

During their visit to Australia, the Hungarian delegation led by Judit Csehak held talks with the Australian federal health minister and with the health and ethnic affairs ministers of South Australia on possibilities of working out and developing health contacts. The delegation also met with Hungarians living in South Australia.

Director of Vietnamese Control Body Visits
BK170919 Hanoi VNA in English 0716 GMT 17 Apr 88

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 17—A delegation of the Supreme People's Organ of Control led by its director, Tran Quyet, visited Hungary from April 9-13.

The delegation was received by Rezso Trautmann, vice president of the Presidential Council, and Gyorgy Fejti, secretary of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party.

Nemeth, Grosz Greet Syria on National Day
AU181122 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 16 Apr 88 p 21

[Text] Karoly Nemeth, president of the Presidential Council, and Karoly Grosz, chairman of the Council of Ministers, have expressed their good wishes in a telegram to President Hafiz al-Asad and Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi on the national holiday of the Syrian Arab Republic, the 42d anniversary of the country's independence.

MSZMP CC Issues May Day Slogans
AU181218 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 16 Apr 88 p 1

["MSZMP Central Committee Slogans for 1 May 1988"]

[Text] 1. Proletarians of the World, Unite!

2. Long Live Marxism-Leninism!

3. Long Live 1 May!

4. Long Live Hungarian-Soviet Friendship!

5. Let Us Strengthen the Friendship of Peoples Who Are Building Socialism!

6. Long Live the Solidarity Among Communist and Workers Parties!

7. Let There Be a World Free of Nuclear Arms!

8. Peaceful Present, Secure Future for Mankind!

9. We Support the Cause of Peace and Security in Europe!

10. In National Unity, for the Implementation of the Development Program!

11. Forward, for Implementing the 1988 Plan of the People's Economy!

12. We Salute the Collectives and Workers in the Vanguard of Work!

13. Young People! Learn and Work Well for Social Progress!

14. Let Us Strengthen the People's Power Through Developing Socialist Democracy!

15. Renewed National Unity for Progress!

16. Forward with the Leadership of the Party for Socialism on the Road of Reforms!

17. Long Live the MSZMP!

18. Long Live Our Beloved Fatherland, the Hungarian People's Republic, and May It Prosper!

Marothy Views Changes in Environment Ministry
LD150949 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1000 GMT 14 Apr 88

[Excerpt] Two new ministries have been formed in the spirit of modernizing government work. Now that a good 3 months have passed, there should be some interest in seeing just how much progress they have made in reshaping their organization. Laszlo Marothy, minister of environmental protection and water management, delivered a briefing on this to the central leadership of MEDOSZ [Agricultural and Forestry Workers Trade Union]. Anna Lengyel interviewed him:

[Begin recording] [Lengyel] Tell me, have you made many organizational changes?

[Marothy] When planning the reorganization, we devised a three-stage process. The first was to organize the ministry, which had to be done by the 1 April deadline. The second was to settle the territorial organizations to suit the new task, and we are planning this for around 1 July, depending on the floods, of course. The work of the directorates must be adjusted not only to the calendar, but to water levels, too. The third stage is to organize our enterprises, for this service is such that its

primary strength lies not in its center, but in its territorial organizations and background institutions. Thus, according to the new concept, we will be completely ready by the end of the year.

The previous organizations had a staff of 404, while the new ministry is starting off with 350.

[Lengyel] Was that an order, or did the new tasks require that number?

[Marothy] Actually, the organization resulted from within itself, for there were parallel main departments. There were main economic departments; main personnel departments in both. There was no need for two...

[Lengyel, interrupting] The two refer to the National Water Affairs Office and the National Environmental Protection Office.

[Marothy] Yes.

[Lengyel] Did you get more money for the new organizational structure?

[Marothy] I can give you an unequivocal answer: We have not gotten another filler. In fact, this organization has now been structured so that those traditional areas which, in whatever organizational formation, would have to do the same thing were left alone. Take flood protection, for instance. Whatever the ministry's task, it must deal with this. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Government Creates Council Affairs Collegium
AU171609 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian
7 Apr 88 p 6

[MTI report: "More Efficient Work by Local Councils"]

[Text] At its recent session, the government decided to establish a Council Affairs Collegium of the Council of Ministers. In doing so, it sought to make relations between the Council of Ministers and local councils more direct and efficient, and to coordinate the activities of the government and local councils. Detailed information on the tasks of this consultative body can be found in the current issue of *MAGYAR KOZLONY*.

On the basis of this decision, the collegium will hold debates on the more important proposals concerning the organization and activities of local councils. It will also evaluate the experiences of local councils and central guidance, initiate the development and spread of efficient methods, and hold exchanges of opinion on the implementation of the more significant and topical tasks facing the state. The secretarial functions related to the collegium's activities will be done by the Office of the Council of Ministers. The chairman of the Council of Ministers will give a briefing on each session of the collegium at the next regular meeting of the government.

Berecz Discusses Flow of Party Information

LD161334 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian
1000 GMT 16 Apr 88

[Text] The Debrecen conference, which is analyzing the link between politics and publicity, is over. The heads of the three sections presented a report this morning at a plenary session on the work done. At that point, the 2 days were summarized by Janos Berecz, member of the Politburo and secretary of the MSZMP Central Committee. We now present the section of his address dealing with party publicity:

[Begin Berecz recording] We have had a professional debate. Naturally, that debate took place within the political medium we live in today, and not apart from it. In any case, there can be no publicity without some sort of political medium. In other words, you cannot separate the two.

The creation of a program is a most painful process of birth for man, and for the human community. That is true if people are not interested. It also holds if the program is compiled by forces, groups, and institutions outside the scope of the people, or by people dependent on them but independent of them. After all, in those circumstances, it is difficult for the citizen and the program—the political force that directs and guides the creation of the program—to meet. However, it is also quite hard when everyone gets a word in, and we are now working to ensure that everyone contributes to the process of drafting the program. This will give the overwhelming majority the feeling that it deals with them, that the program is being made for them, and that it cannot be put into effect without them.

Our party must work to guarantee that only specific reasons can, at any one time, hinder the achievement of complete openness. And leaders and workers in the workshops can be made to understand the specific reasons.

There should be complete openness within the party. There must be virtually no limits in asserting this. This has been done only partially in our party, and we need a complete system of openness.

I would say, and my experience leads me to believe, that things are good enough from the bottom up. Both balanced and extreme opinions reach our leaders. Information going up is quite fast and precise. It occasionally makes the sharp edges rougher instead of smoothing them down. It even gets a bit frightening at times. But one must not take action against that.

The other direction—information flowing from the top down—is full of gaps and leaves much to be desired. It is full of gaps either because it is brief, insufficiently substantive, or slow. However, people, including party members, live their daily lives and have no time to wait for a leading body to meet and deal with the matter for

them. If we say that the party's leading role is not simply the task of one of its institutions but the task of every party member and organization, then a service must be established here so that the Central Committee can serve the basic organization. We must do this with a view to allowing the basic organization to do its duty, assert its policies, and to be confident in the knowledge that it knows everything it must, and that it will not be left in the lurch tomorrow.

The fact that the Central Committee has decided something does not make it automatically valid. We will no longer have a society where it will be enough to say: Because that's what the Central Committee decided. We will have a society where the party's leading role is asserted in such a way that everyone is familiar with the policy, has contributed to it, can represent it, and helps put it into effect in his own area.

However, if we are to accomplish this, we need a diffusion—that's a poor expression, and I hope the linguists will come up with a better one someday. We need a diffusion from the top down, from the Central Committee to the basic organization, of, one may say, knowledge, information, and help in doing the work. [end recording]

Leaders' Public Appearances 7-13 Apr

AU1171421 [Editorial report] Budapest NEPSZABAD-SAG in Hungarian from 9 to 14 April reports on the following public appearance of Hungarian leaders (date and page number given in parentheses):

Peter Medgyessy, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, received Dr Heint Gunter Zavelberg, chairman of the FRG Auditing Authority and deputy president of the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions who visited Hungary 5-7 April; date and place not given. (9 April, p 4)

Ferenc Havasi, member of the MSZMP Politburo and first secretary of the MSZMP Budapest Committee, attended an extended session of the MSZMP Budapest Committee on 11 April; place not given. (12 April, p 5)

Janos Lukacs, secretary of the MSZMP Central Committee, visited Veszprem County where he met with county and party officials and visited two enterprises on 12 and 13 April. (14 April, p 3)

Orzechowski Sends Regrets on Abu Jihad Death
LD182008 Warsaw PAP in English
1810 GMT 18 Apr 88

[Text] Warsaw, April 18—Polish Minister of Foreign Affairs Marian Orzechowski sent a cable of condolence to chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization Yasir 'Arafat in connection with the murder of member of PLO's Executive Committee Khalil Al-Wazir "Abu Jihad".

Transcript of Urban 12 Apr Press Conference
AU181020 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish
13 Apr 88 pp 1, 6

[Transcript of press conference given to Polish and foreign correspondents by Government Spokesman Jerzy Urban at the INTERPRESS Center in Warsaw on 12 April]

[Text] Government Spokesman Jerzy Urban met with Polish and foreign press journalists on 12 April for his weekly press conference. We present the transcript of this conference.

Maria Goc, Radio Polonia: Many Jewish activists are due to arrive to take part in the observances of the 45th anniversary of the Warsaw ghetto uprising. Some of them have told the press that they expect the Polish authorities will officially have nothing to do with the observances. Is this true?

[Urban] I find such statements odd. The authorities' stance on anti-Semitism, wherever and in whatever form it appears, is precise and unequivocal.

Like every form of chauvinism and racism, anti-Semitism is against the fundamental ideological principles on which our state is founded. It is against the standard principle of internationalism. I have no doubt that this condemnation of anti-Semitism, an extreme form of which gave birth to the Nazi genocide of the Jews, will be given suitable publicity in the official statements by the Polish organizers of the observances of the 45th anniversary of the Warsaw ghetto uprising.

Our attitude toward anti-Semitism was also expressed during the debate on the 1968 events in Poland. It was reflected in an article in TRYBUNA LUDU on 2 March. The paper's editorial board stressed that this editorial, entitled "March 1968," was inspired by a Politburo discussion on this topic and by a Politburo recommendation to present a fuller and broader evaluation of these events. Therefore, this article did not present the private views of one author; such articles have already appeared in other newspapers and journals.

I wish to make two more statements against this background.

A group of people has deemed it necessary to stage concurrent observances of the anniversary of the ghetto uprising and have supplied the Western press and Western radio stations with a declaration. It is sad that even on occasions like the anniversary of a heroic uprising in the ghetto, the enormous tragedy of the Nazi genocide and the struggle of Jewish insurgents for a dignified death [as published] is being used for trivial and shallow ad hoc political games. This is an affront to the solemnity of the anniversary. The initiators of the rival ceremonies have issued a declaration of their intentions. What is striking about this declaration is that they forget to mention who annihilated the millions of Polish Jews. The perpetrators of the crime are accorded anonymity. Instead of this, the authors of the declaration raise the fact that two Jewish activists were executed in the Soviet Union, without saying that hundreds of thousands of Polish Jews escaped with their lives because they were in the Soviet Union. The general tone of this declaration creates the impression that its authors regret that they cannot blame the Soviet Union for the holocaust, which would be in tune with their political inclinations. So they make the perpetrators of the holocaust anonymous and lay emphasis on the death of two Jewish activists in the Soviet Union to give the anniversary of the ghetto uprising an anti-Soviet tone. I am telling you all this because Western radio stations have publicized this idea, which is quite simply tactless in the face of the historical dimension of the uprising. Together we ought to bow our heads before the graves of the thousands of murdered people, without insulting their memory by using the tragedy of the Jews to play trivial games.

My second comment concerns the attempts in the foreign press to compare the observances of the anniversary of the uprising with developments in the Israeli-occupied territories. Some publications question the solidarity of the Polish people and authorities toward the legitimate struggle of the Palestinians. Such speculations are erroneous, and I stress this vehemently.

The ghetto observances relate to the tragic events in Europe and Poland and to our history, which go back farther than the State of Israel and the present Middle East conflict. We are disturbed by and indignant over Israel's conduct in the occupied territories. We fully support the struggle of the Palestinians for their human and national rights. We believe that the brutal behavior of the present Israeli authorities in the Israeli-occupied territories is an insult to the memory of the defenders of the Warsaw ghetto because it contradicts the values for which they took up arms.

By the way, Alma Kadragic from ABC asked me a question earlier on, requesting that I reply to it in her absence because she is not here and therefore unable to ask it in person.

Alma Kadragic, ABC News: Is a representative of the authorities going to take part in the "march of the living" from Oswiecim [Auschwitz] to Brzezinka [Birkenau]?

Urban: This event is not in the program of observances because it is an idea of the youth of Israel. We are not the ones who are organizing it. A group of young people from Israel is organizing this march together with the municipal authorities of Oswiecim, with the knowledge and approval of the organizing committee, of course. Our attitude toward this march is, of course, positive, and on our part we are doing everything necessary so that the march can take place in accordance with the wishes of its organizers. The young Israelis will actually take part in this march on their own, but members of the organizing committee will be present.

Tadeusz Kucharski, TIME Magazine: High-ranking Israeli Government officials will also visit Poland in connection with the "march of the living," including Deputy Prime Minister Navon and Justice Minister Sharir. Are any meetings between them and Polish Government representatives foreseen?

Urban: No. The Israeli officials are coming as private persons. Of course, all participants, including the members of the Israeli authorities, will be invited to take part in the observances of the 45th anniversary of the ghetto uprising.

Michal Broniatowski, REUTER: Does the Polish Government have anything against unofficial observances of the uprising? Why do you call them concurrent, even though this is the stated intention of the organizers? Does the government know that Marek Edelman, the only surviving leader of this uprising, has not been invited to the official observances at all?

Urban: I have already said everything I had to say about these concurrent observances, and I also explained the reasons behind my disapproval of this separate idea. Of course, everyone able and willing to do so should pay their respects during this anniversary, however the separate ideas and tones that have arisen are quite simply surprising. As far as Dr Marek Edelman is concerned, he has not been invited to join the organizing committee because he refused to take part in the previous anniversary and his public statements suggest he would refuse this time as well. However, I know from the organizers that Dr Marek Edelman, deputy commander of the Jewish combat organization during the uprising, has either been invited or will be invited to take part in the observations.

Jerzy Gonczarski, EXPRESS WIECZORNY: Society's optimism, regularly measured by the Public Opinion Research Center, has been at a dangerously low level for some time. Could you comment?

Urban: I have said many times that it is low. This is an obstacle to the economic reforms and political transformations in Poland. However, the index of optimism, the term commonly given to all the data concerning social moods, fluctuates all the time under the influence of

various events. The index of optimism always falls when prices go up, because prices have a very strong negative effect on moods. So I hope this index will rise under the influence of favorable facts.

Viktor Runov, TASS: As we know, the leaders of our two countries, Comrades Jaruzelski and Gorbachev, have signed a declaration on cooperation in ideology, culture, and science. This declaration has brought much that is new to the lives of our states and peoples. Is there anything you can add to this topic?

Urban: To answer this question I must list the declaration's achievements, and there are many of them. So please be patient.

The number of journalists involved in exchanges has increased. Cooperation between editorial boards has also increased; right now, the editorial boards of over 70 journals are engaged in direct cooperation. New ways of exchanging information have appeared, such as television hook-ups and the presence of a large number of journalists from one country among editorial staffs in the other country, and not just in the national press, but in the local press as well. The result is a greater quantity and better quality of articles aimed at better relations and understanding between our peoples. And this is just the beginning.

Contacts between artistic communities have revived. The extent of Polish culture presented in the USSR has increased. Examples of these better contacts are the performances by the "Studio" Theater, the staging of the play "The Master and Margaret" ["Mistrz i Malgorzata"] in Polish, the "Warsaw Days" in Moscow, and a series of sculptural exhibitions and concerts.

The plans of Soviet publishers this year involve over 70 titles by Polish authors. There is increased interest in the works of authors that have never been published in the Soviet Union (Mrozek, Gombrowicz, Schulz). It has not escaped our attention that Polish books on sale in the USSR are relatively expensive. We are considering this. A brand new idea is the festival of Polish song in Moscow. A Polish Culture and Information Center will be opened in Moscow on 20 April.

In the scientific sphere, we note a slow but steady increase in the number of joint research topics and agreements. There were 212 of them in 1987. Direct cooperation between research units of the Polish and Soviet Academies of Science is one of the new forms of cooperation. There are over 40 scholars in the USSR on so-called contract employment. They are there with their families. Relatively less dynamic is the development of cooperation between educational institutions, especially as far as scientific posts and the exchange of lecturers and students is concerned. For example, 39 Polish establishments are cooperating with 54 Soviet ones. Considering the possibilities and mutual interest that exist, this is still too few.

Until recently, our 49 Polish voivodships were cooperating with 32 Soviet oblasts. Now the number of Soviet oblasts cooperating with our voivodships is 46. Contacts in border areas—movements of people and children and youth exchanges—have become livelier. There are exchanges of surplus goods—there are even special trade fairs for this purpose. Direct cooperation between work places has developed in border areas, though we note that for the time being these contacts are mainly social, and we would like them also to involve joint production.

A series of measures facilitating contacts between the citizens of both countries have been adopted. New road transport and air links are planned. There has been a relaxation of passport rules for travel in border areas.

Travel between our countries has increased somewhat, though still not enough. On organized tours alone, 120,000 Polish tourists visited the USSR in 1986 and 176,000 in 1987. Our country was visited by 37,000 Soviet tourists in 1986 and 50,000 in 1987. All in all, 3,260,000 Polish citizens crossed the borders of the USSR in 1986. In 1987 this number increased by almost half a million. A consular office has been opened in Lvov.

The interest in the Poles in the USSR has increased. We have made specific proposals for contacts and cooperation, one being that children of Polish origin should spend vacations in Poland, participate in Polonia festivals, and so on. At the same time, Soviet republics continue to show increased interest in the Belorussian and Ukrainian minorities in Poland.

We have intensified contacts between political parties (the ZSL and the SD), organizations such as the Christian Social Association, trade unions, and youth organizations with the Soviet side. In this connection it is enough to mention the important visit to the USSR of a PRON delegation.

As a result of ideological cooperation, we have set up the Joint Commission of Polish and Soviet historians to examine and clarify the "blank spots" in our mutual relations. The commission has held two sessions already and continues to carry out intensive scientific work and to exchange source evidence between its sessions. The press has already discussed the achievements of this commission, and we hope that materials on its work will be published.

John Daniszewski, AP: Mr Minister, the first quarter of the year is over. Could you inform us about the movement of prices and wages in that quarter. I would like to know in particular whether the increase of wages has greatly outstripped the government's expectations. Is there any danger that an inflation spiral may appear?

Urban: I am unable to answer this question now. Although I did say at one time that the economic data for the first quarter would be compiled in the middle of

April, my latest information is that the economic analyses and the relevant data will be ready at the end of April, at which time we will know about the present trends of the Polish economy.

Stanislav Shtukarov, NOVOSTI: I would like to ask a question about Polish-Soviet cooperation. Following Premier Messner's most recent working visit [to Moscow], the Polish mass media have published many formulations about Polish-Soviet economic cooperation such as new quality, a new stage, new forms, and so on. Following that meeting in Moscow, what is there really new in Polish-Soviet cooperation, if we look at it from the positions of Soviet perestroika and Polish renewal? How would you comment in detail on the results of the most recent economic talks in Moscow?

Urban: Perestroika and renewal continue to affect the climate of talks and their meaningfulness. However, I find it very difficult to define the direct bearing of perestroika and renewal on the results of those economic talks.

During the Krakow meeting between Premier Messner and Premier Ryzhkov, important decisions were made with regard to the development of our economy and the intensification of mutual trade and economic cooperation.

These decisions referred to basic matters such as assured supplies of Soviet raw materials for the Polish economy, the postponement of repayments of our convertible currency debts to the USSR, easier repayments of these debts, and the USSR's participation in completing unfinished investments in Poland.

The sides carried out comprehensive analyzes and evaluations of all aspects of cooperation, seeking to eliminate the existing obstacles and difficulties in realizing the program for the further development of cooperation. The point is to speed up the use of qualitatively new and mutually beneficial forms of Polish-Soviet economic and scientific-technological cooperation.

Polish-Soviet economic and trade relations are of fundamental importance for a stable and planned development of our economy, because the Soviet Union accounts for one-third of Polish foreign trade.

Soviet perestroika and Polish reforms have made it possible to switch from the present traditional forms of barter and trade over to new and more effective forms of cooperation between enterprises.

The essence of the qualitatively new stage in the development of Polish-Soviet economic relations is that the present contacts between governments and ministries will go hand in hand with a third level of cooperation, which will assume the following forms:

—Direct cooperation between enterprises and scientific research institutes to intensify specialization and collaboration and to accelerate the practical implementation of scientific-technological progress. Over 300 industrial and agricultural enterprises and scientific-technological units each in Poland and the USSR have begun cooperating in this way.

—Joint design and construction bureaus to devise new products and construction materials that are in short supply in our two countries. Already 18 joint design bureaus and scientific teams have been established.

—The production by joint enterprises, which are based on the principle of business accounting, to meet mutual needs and to promote export to the third countries. The first joint enterprise called Pollena-Miraculum has already been set up, and work is continuing to establish four other joint enterprises.

—Direct cooperation between enterprises and organizations run by domestic trade. This cooperation is being realized by 190 pairs of Polish and Soviet domestic trade enterprises and cooperative trading units.

—Modernization and development of production capacities in the existing Polish plants with the help of Soviet loans.

We are most hopeful that the development of the new forms of cooperation will help accelerate the development of natural and mutually advantageous economic and production links. Many various obstacles are still there, but we will remove them in line with the economic interest and the spirit of the reforms now under way in our two countries.

Jackson Diehl, THE WASHINGTON POST: Minister, Mr Edelman spoke recently about the celebrations of the anniversary of the Warsaw ghetto uprising, which are to begin this week. He also mentioned the role of Messrs Kakol and Jablonski in these celebrations. He said that these two persons were in a way compromised by their anti-Semitic actions in 1968, and that this was especially true of Mr Jablonski, whose role in removing certain individuals from university [z uniwersytetu] is common knowledge. What is more, Mr Edelman said that all the preparations to celebrate the anniversary of the Warsaw ghetto uprising are somewhat cynical in nature and reveal a cynical approach by the Polish Government, which is bent on improving its image in the West—among the Western governments. Could you comment on this?

Urban: I see no reason why I should comment on Mr Edelman's statements because of a certain disproportion between the roles played by the government spokesmen and by Mr Edelman. However, I would like to observe that nothing whatever the Polish authorities do as a

collective body or individuals could ever find favor with Mr Edelman. This is the upshot of what I would call his general political orientation.

Barbara Drozd, ZYCIE WARSZAWY: Minister, I would like to know about the fate of the announcement that Vice Premier Sadowski would be granted special powers.

Urban: It all depends on the question of whether or not special powers are necessary. If so, the necessary proposals will be made. The evaluation of the economic results in the first quarter of the year will determine whether such proposals will be set in motion.

Radio Free Europe has attacked our plan to grant extraordinary powers to Vice Premier Sadowski. It continues to aggressively attack almost all the measures taken by the Polish authorities, without heeding the fact that some of its views contradict other views it holds. Radio Free Europe has said that the structure of prices in Poland is nonsensical and has advocated changing it. However, as soon as changes were made it began attacking them with all the perseverance at its disposal and trying to stimulate people's discontent.

Radio Free Europe has said that our reforms continue to meet with bureaucratic opposition, that the Polish leadership continues to talk about the reform rather than to act and that it does not want to break this opposition. Let us say that we have decided to take heed of the warnings of that U.S. radio station. What is the result? Radio Free Europe has launched a hue and cry campaign against the special powers for Professor Sadowski. On 8 April Radio Free Europe announced that special powers mean that Vice Premier Sadowski will be able to make decisions without respecting the law. But this is nonsense. The proposal that he be granted special powers will be submitted to the Sejm, and the Sejm itself will determine whether this vice premier should be granted the powers to make certain decisions for a certain period of time. This means that everything will be done in accordance with the law and not in violation of the law.

Radio Free Europe also said that extraordinary powers are in conflict with the reform because they mean compulsion and a selective approach toward the members of the economic cadres. Radio Free Europe does not know as yet what these powers will be, but it has already taken the liberty of saying that they are in conflict with the reform. However, compulsion to implement the rules of the reform helps to promote the reform. Radio Free Europe claims that the coming review of managers is an obvious swindle and helps to stir discontent by saying that managers are to be made scapegoats for failures. That U.S. radio station also says that job certification is still continuing and that therefore the review in question is unnecessary. Radio Free Europe has shown ignorance in this regard. Job certification concerns organizational structures and determines the need for the existence of various cells and for the number of workers, but the

review concerns the qualifications of managing cadres, checks on the results of their performance, and finds out whether these cadres stick to the rules of the reform.

Radio Free Europe says: "If the market economy were really introduced, there would be no need for any job certification and certainly no need for any verification of managers. The market is the best vericator." The complete market economy, one that would be introduced all at once, would trigger violent, all-embracing, and unrestricted price hikes. However, the thing is that Radio Free Europe always attacks price hikes, trying to stimulate people's discontent. That is why the programs beamed by Radio Free Europe are in conflict with each other. The only line Radio Free Europe sticks to is to negate and make odious whatever the Polish authorities plan or do.

On 11 April, Radio Free Europe broadcast a talk with U.S. congressmen who had visited Poland not long before. One of them, Mr Ritter, said that his talks with Vice Premier Sadowski showed that the Polish reforms intend to replace communism with capitalism. Mr Ritter's conclusion is glaringly erroneous. His misunderstanding of the Polish vice premier is profound. Our reforms seek to strengthen socialism by rationalizing its economic bases.

Ideon Greif, Radio Israel: Mr Minister, a year now after the opening of the Interest Section in Poland and Israel, I would like to ask you to sum up Polish-Israeli relations during the past year.

Urban: These relations have developed to the extent allowed by the powers of the two sections. Cultural exchanges and tourist traffic have increased and the flow of information has become a little more advantageous.

Leszek Kubiak, PAP Foreign Service: Mr Minister, you spoke about Polish-GDR talks about delimiting the territorial waters in the West Pomeranian Bay. Anything new in this matter?

Urban: At present experts are continuing to determine all the legal and other detailed aspects of the issue and to establish the precise positions of the sides, as this has become indispensable. As soon they have completed their work, the issue will be again dealt with at the government level.

We expect and hope that the matter will be settled bilaterally in accordance with legal justice and in the spirit of unshakable Polish-GDR friendship, cooperation, and mutual understanding.

Jurgen Vietig, SUEDEDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG: Mr Minister, does the PPR Government share the critical assessment of relations between the PPR and the FRG made by Sejm Deputy Ryszard Wojna, vice chairman of the

Sejm Foreign Affairs Commission, in RZECZPOSPOLITA—especially the view that the FRG supposedly has a negative stance toward Poland at the Paris Club?

Urban: The latest government position was expressed by Minister of Foreign Affairs Marian Orzechowski in his Sejm speech. He also spoke on this subject on 14 March, and he expresses the government's position. I am not familiar with the article that you mentioned. Ryszard Wojna publishes many articles on the subject of Polish-FRG relations. This is what he specializes in as a journalist, and you would have to formulate a more precise question that would convey what Ryszard Wojna said for me to be able to express an opinion on Deputy Wojna's views.

Vietig: It is this, quite simply: According to Mr Wojna, the FRG is making it difficult at the Paris Club for agreements to be reached on the subject of Poland's debts.

Urban: I cannot express a view on the subject. Perhaps Deputy Wojna has some information that I do not. However, even if I did have such information, the government maintains discretion about the way talks are progressing because those are the rules that have been adopted with respect to talks with the Paris Club.

Krzysztof Bobinski, THE FINANCIAL TIMES: Mr Minister, an article on the enemies of restructuring was published a week ago. The publication of this article was only reported on a television newscast toward the end of last week, and yesterday TRYBUNA LUDU published the article in its entirety. Can one conclude, therefore, that the Polish authorities do not have a very precise position on what is happening in the Soviet Union and that there is also no clear line on reporting what is being written and what is happening in that country?

Urban: The Polish authorities have a very clear policy line with respect to restructuring and glasnost, and it has been expressed on many occasions by our country's most important political and state figures. So, I do not understand your question. We are seeking to provide extensive information without delay and without taking account of any domestic political considerations about anything of significance that is published in the Soviet Union. I cannot provide you with any answers about what, when, where, and so on. I can only encourage you not to be suspicious because I know that the Polish press has problems. Items published in the Soviet press tend to be very extensive, and the Polish press is very concise. Our editorial boards find it difficult to keep up with publishing abridged versions of Soviet articles that are very important and exciting, but long and published very often. I do not think that you would be able to mention any important events in the Soviet Union that Polish public opinion has not been informed about. Regarding our debts, certain principles have been agreed during the

negotiations. However, the details still have to be negotiated at a lower level, and we will then be able to inform you about the situation in more concrete terms, including the content of the agreements that will have been concluded.

Zbigniew Satala, GAZETA KRAKOWSKA: The reform of central institutions has been received well by the country, but it is widely hoped that it will be followed by similar activities at lower administrative and managerial levels. So, can one expect there to be a further shake-up at primary and middle levels.

Urban: Yes, one can expect this to happen. I do not have a schedule here, but if I did I would be able to tell when it will take place. In any case, I can tell you, for example, that there are plans for a rapid reorganization of voivodship structures.

John Daniszewski, AP: I have two questions concerning the Warsaw ghetto uprising. What role or part will the highest authorities or representatives of the highest Polish authorities play in the events marking this anniversary. That is, will General Jaruzelski and Premier Messner be clearly visible at the events? Second, concerning the same subject, does the Polish Government intend to keep the gasoline station that operates next to the monument to the victims of the Jewish uprising? As far as I know, the service station already has started or is about to start operating.

Urban: Regarding the question of who will take part in the events and in what way, I suggest you address this question to the organizing committee because a committee headed by Professor Henryk Jablonski—and not the government—is organizing events to mark the anniversary, and I am sure you will get the information you want from it.

What does the Polish Government think about the service station? I already said that this is not a question that one can address to the government spokesman, but because it has already been asked I have obtained the relevant information. You made something of a mistake in formulating your question. It concerns an already existing service station and not one that is being established. The service station was closed down in line with decisions reached by the organizing committee and the local authorities. Plans for a monument and the whole area have been prepared by a special committee headed by Prof Geysztorn and with the agreement of the organizing committee headed by Prof Jablonski. In a word, the briefest possible answer is that there is no service station.

Daniszewski: Will it be opened?

Urban: I do not know. Please ask the Petroleum Industry Center. I do not even know—please forgive me—what the problem is about because it seems to be some very technical matter. I simply do not know if the service

station is in the way of the events or whether it is just an obstacle in the way of the construction of the monument. If it would hinder the construction of the monument, then it stands to reason that it has been closed permanently. If it would just be in the way of the events that will be staged, then that would seem to be another matter. I would like you to address at least some questions to other quarters.

Marek Kassa, Polish Radio: Mr Minister, I would like to know what the current situation is regarding compensation for the pollution of the Odra that originated in Czechoslovakia?

Urban: Shortly after the meeting in Jelenia Gora, which was attended by the deputy premiers of the three countries involved and at which there was a general discussion concerning financial responsibility for the damage and the losses that were caused, the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs addressed a claim for compensation to the Czechoslovak authorities. Detailed information was provided about the level of our losses, including costs involved in the temporary removal of pollution, and the more long-term losses. I will not mention the figures because it would not be right to do so before bilateral talks on the subject of compensation are started.

Yusef Maliol [name as published], Palestinian Press Agency Wafa: I have two questions. First, Yasir 'Arafat's official visit to Moscow ended on 10 April. Mr Minister, what is your assessment of the visit, and is 'Arafat expected to visit Warsaw. Second, on 7 April Jozef Czyrek, PZPR Politburo member and Central Committee secretary, met ambassadors representing Arab countries. Could you say something on this subject?

Urban: We consider Yasir 'Arafat's meeting in Moscow of benefit to the Palestinian cause and an important event contributing to the resolution of the Middle East conflict. I do not know anything about a possible visit to Warsaw by Yasir 'Arafat. I do not have any information. In reply to your second question, I can confirm that such a meeting did take place, but it is not customary to provide information about what was discussed. All I can say is that Jozef Czyrek provided information on some current aspects of Poland's foreign policy and on the situation in our country. It is quite normal for representatives of the Polish authorities to meet ambassadors accredited in Poland on an individual and a group basis. It is not customary to announce talks of this kind because they have a working character.

Gulio Gelibert, ANSA: With reference to the new assessment of the events of 1968, and the manifestations of anti-Semitism connected with them in particular, I would like to ask why the Polish authorities continue to tolerate the continued existence of the "Grunwald" Association, whose activity has frequently had an anti-Semitic tenor in the past?

Urban: This question from ANSA, which propagates freedom and democracy, surprises me very much. I neither intend to act here as the "Grunwald" Association's advocate nor do I intend to confirm the charges made against it, because I have not heard anything about its activities for a long time. There are about 2,000 associations in Poland. We intend to extend the range of associations that exist. Different associations represent different opinions and different shades of opinion. This is natural from the point of view of our program for the expansion of socialist pluralism. However, if you can substantiate that the activities of any organization are in some way anti-Semitic, then I would ask you to convey this to the prosecutor's office, because Polish law provides for severe prison sentences in such cases. Such people would be considered criminally responsible, and such organizations would be disbanded on the grounds that they violate the law on associations.

Gulio Gelibert: Mr Minister, you did not reply to my question about why the Polish Government tolerates the "Grunwald" organization, and you also did not answer my question about why the Polish Government does not condemn or disassociate itself from the anti-Semitism of this type of organization in the way that it has disassociated itself from assessments of the events of March 1968, the assessments that appeared shortly after the events, that is, they were published.

Urban: You accuse the "Grunwald" organization of anti-Semitism. I do not know of the organization engaging in any activities that violate the law. To tell you the truth, I did not know anything about the activities of the organization. I would say that this is a charge that ought to be proved, and that is matter for the prosecutor's office, above all, and not a matter for the government spokesman. I surely stated quite clearly that if any organization in Poland openly voiced anti-Semitic views, then it and those who voiced such views would be held criminally responsible and the organization itself would be the subject of appropriate administrative proceedings. The appropriate paragraph of the criminal code states—of course, I do not remember the precise words—that anyone who abuses a group of people because of their religion, origin, or race will receive a prison sentence of so many years.

Kay Withers, THE BALTIMORE SUN: Mr Minister, at the last press conference something I said was mistranslated, I would like to correct what was said. Unfortunately, I was almost depicted as an advocate of censorship. I am completely opposed to censorship, and I believe that even a mild form of censorship runs counter to openness and democracy.

Urban: I acknowledge what you have said. I received a letter from you on this subject, but the shortcomings of a translation are not my fault and not something that I can deal with. We simply had some problems with the translation. However, no one who was in this hall

assumed that you were advocating censorship because of these problems. The roles are different. I declared myself to be an advocate of censorship.

I still have some good news for you. There will be no press conference next week, because I am going abroad. I offer my sincere apologies, but there will be no more interruptions after that.

Foreign Ministry Press Conference 14 Apr
AU181547 Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish
15 Apr 88 p 4

[Rudolf Hoffman report: "The Conference of the Spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs"]

[Text] On 14 April, Stefan Staniszewski, the press spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, met with Polish and foreign journalists at the Warsaw INTER-PRESS press center. He first made a statement, in which he referred among other things to the Geneva accord on peacefully settling the Afghan problem, saying that the Polish public was pleased with this accord. Conditions have been created, he said, to establish long-awaited peace in Afghanistan and to restore peace and neighborly relations between the states in that region. If all states show good will and if they cooperate to realize that historic accord, the beneficiaries will be the Afghan people and peace in the region and in the world.

The spokesman discussed the coming Gorbachev-Reagan meeting in Moscow and stressed that Poland attaches fundamental importance to signing the accord on the 50 percent reduction in the Soviet and U.S. nuclear arsenals. The Polish side is also hopeful that the two sides will overcome the existing difficulties and agree on the principles of that new accord. We also hope that the Moscow "summit" will promote the issue of conventional disarmament and further military detente in Europe, in which Poland is deeply interested. This is yet another priority among our priorities at the CSCE meeting in Vienna.

S. Staniszewski added that the Soviet-U.S. dialogue and above all the new Soviet thinking in overcoming the present stereotypes and in mutually eliminating the enemy image continue to create optimism with regard to predictions about the development of the situation in the world, although we are aware of the existing dangers, including attempts to obtain advantage in and to modernize conventional weapons in NATO. As we know, the Sofia meeting of the Warsaw Pact foreign ministers invited NATO to jointly negotiate and work out new, bold, and mutual disarmament measures without ignoring taboo subjects.

The meeting in Sofia also promoted the discussion of the Jaruzelski Plan and expressed unequivocal support for it. This support is related to expectations that the Polish disarmament thought will make further contributions to the joint proposals submitted by the Warsaw Pact states.

S. Staniszewski also noted that the aforementioned improvement in East-West relations does not go hand in hand with progress in the economic sphere.

He stressed that the NATO states continue to show aversion toward the development of multilateral economic cooperation mechanisms at the Vienna CSCE meeting. Given the intensification of negative features in the world economy, including the debt crisis and the growing disproportions in the development of states and regions, East-West economic relations lag more and more behind the progress in the political and military areas. Also the talks about an accord between CEMA and the EEC continually face procrastination beyond reasonable expectations. There is a lack of new initiatives in the West's fiscal-loan policy toward Poland and in the West's approach toward our debts and toward economic cooperation with our country.

Replying to journalists' questions, S. Staniszewski said among other things that one of the documents to be signed in Geneva on Afghanistan provides for establishing an international control and supervision commission and that the UN general secretary has asked some countries whether they would participate in such a commission.

Poland has been consulted on this, but it has not been officially invited to participate. Only consultations have been held. I think, S. Staniszewski said, that if Poland is officially invited to participate in that commission, we will positively respond to such an invitation because we have experience in this regard and were members of the commissions operating in Indochina. We are also a member of the commission in Korea.

Asked about Poland's position on the situation on the Arab territories occupied by Israel, S. Staniszewski said that the Poles' emotional attitude toward the 45th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising and the annihilation of the Jewish population did not influence Polish policy toward Israel. As for the uprising of the Palestinian population in the occupied territories since last December, that is, for the 5th month, it is proof that the Palestinian policy of successive Israeli Governments has failed.

The brutality of the Israeli authorities' repressive measures continues to elicit general indignation and condemnation in the world. We express full solidarity with these sentiments and resolutely protest Israeli policy. We appeal for realism and for respect for international law. These events make it acutely necessary to intensify collective efforts to achieve a comprehensive and just solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict, rooted in the Palestinian question, the settlement of which must be compatible with the relevant UN resolutions. That is why we are for accelerating preparations for an international conference on the Middle East under the auspices of the United Nations. Minister M. Orzechowski confirmed this during his 11 March press conference.

Replying to a TRYBUNA LUDU question, S. Staniszewski said that our relations with the Nordic states continue to develop favorably, have been improving recently, and can be called good. We are returning to the traditional political dialogue with all Nordic states. Minister Orzechowski visited Sweden not so long ago and the Danish foreign minister visited our country, which will soon be visited by the Norwegian foreign minister. Regular political consultations continue to be held. For example, last week we had such consultations with Sweden at the level of departmental heads on the control over armaments. At the beginning of May consultations will be held at the level of vice ministers.

In his recent Sejm speech, Minister Orzechowski said that "we are aware of large unexplored areas in our relations with the Nordic countries, especially with Finland, our relations with which are especially advantageous and close...."

We want to develop our contacts with the Nordic countries for various reasons. First, these countries are our neighbors, we have many common problems, and we have links through previously signed Baltic conventions. Second, our views on the issues of European security and cooperation are often similar. We think that the political dialogue with these countries will help stimulate relations in Europe.

That is why we should treat the Nordic countries as one of the priority issues of Polish foreign policy.

Asked about the functions to mark the 45th anniversary of the Warsaw ghetto uprising, S. Staniszewski said that a special committee for these functions had been set up under Professor H. Jablonski. The role of our Ministry of Foreign Affairs is primarily limited to informing the combatant organizations abroad, especially Jewish combatant organizations, including those in Israel, about various plans connected with these functions. Our foreign units also continue to organize functions in this connection. Because I am a member of the committee responsible for these functions, S. Staniszewski said, I am able to tell you that many invitations to these functions have been sent out this year. The interest in them has been considerable, and this also applies to the World Jewish Congress, which is sending a delegation to attend.

Asked to describe the present state of Polish-FRG relations, S. Staniszewski said that the Sejm Foreign Affairs Commission had held a session on this subject in the presence of Minister Orzechowski and Ambassador R. Karski on Wednesday and that the Thursday press had reported on this session. S. Staniszewski recalled that during Minister Gescher's visit it was agreed to set up three working groups to review mutual relations and to examine the possibility of achieving progress in individual spheres. The group responsible for political affairs

has already held its first meeting. The meetings of the group responsible for economic-fiscal issues and of that responsible for international issues will be held soon.

Our dialogue with the FRG will continue to be intensive. We are ready to take a significant stride forward in the process of normalization and in raising the level of bilateral cooperation on the basis of the 1970 treaty, but we are aware of the present difficulties and problems, which must be settled. Eliminating the obstacles that continue to hinder further progress in the process of normalization and tangibly increasing the substance of our relations with the FRG would create conditions for Chancellor Kohl's visit to our country.

Minister Orzechowski is expected to visit Bonn in the middle of this year. The visit will offer opportunities to evaluate the state of the work aimed at achieving progress in various spheres of cooperation, which is one of the tasks of the working groups. Jozef Czyrek, Politburo member, Central Committee secretary, and chairman of the Sejm Foreign Affairs Committee, will visit the FRG in the next few days.

Economic contacts will be continued this month, too. During his visit to the Hanover Trade Fair, Vice Premier Z. Szalajda will meet with Minister Bangemann, who is responsible for economic affairs. That our dialogue with the FRG has been revitalized is also attested to by the fact that a bilateral journalism seminar will be held at Loccum this month under the auspices of the Evangelical Academy. This seminar will also be attended by representatives of the political parties of our two countries, including the Sejm and Bundestag deputies.

Asked about Polish-French relations, S. Staniszewski stressed among other things that we are most interested in improving mutual relations with France and that we think that this improvement will materialize. Poland and France must always meet and will meet, because this is only natural. We have to look at this issue from the perspective of time.

S. Staniszewski also said that in connection with the functions to mark the anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising it is expected that Mr Bronfman, chairman of the World Jewish Congress, will arrive in Warsaw.

Further on Satellite Television Prospects
AU191043 Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish
16-17 Apr 88 p 1

[Magda Sowinska article: "Satellite Question Marks"]

[Text] The future of satellite television in Poland boils down to receiving television programs via collective aerials [satellite dishes]. No one had any doubts about this during the press conference organized on Friday by the Committee for Science and Technological Progress, attached to the Council of Ministers. However, what is needed is a speedy development of cable systems.

The experience of, say, the Ursynow district of Warsaw shows that linking individual blocks by cable is not easy and that this is much more difficult in the case of entire housing settlements. The task is difficult, but not impossible to accomplish.

The Gdansk Telkom-Telmor tele-electronic plant has for years been producing collective aerials for 40-60 television sets to receive two or three earth channels. With the help of imported satellite television equipment it is possible to receive three or four more channels via these aerials. According to Ryszard Bielawski, manager of the Gdansk plant, work is going on to produce a collective aerial for 1,000-1,500 television sets, and large aerials for about 10,000 sets are being designed. But the most important thing is that Telmor has launched research and development work on equipment designed to receive satellite television via collective installations. This equipment will make it possible to receive four or more selected programs from a single satellite. This work is to be completed next year, and equipment is to be produced in 1990. The Committee for Science and Technological Progress will make a government order for this equipment next month. The estimated cost of the serial production of individual equipment for the reception of two earth programs and four satellite programs will amount at present prices to Z30,000 plus about \$4, which are to pay for the import of converter elements.

People at the press conference became optimistic and thought that it would be easy to install cable television and to look at the world in their own homes. But this optimism was shortlived when the floor was taken by Ryszard Czarnecki, the manager of the Warsaw Unitech technical plant, which is the only industrial producer of satellite aerials in Poland. In cooperation with the Wroclaw Polytechnical School, that plant has designed and produced aerials of 90cm in diameter, which is too small to ensure reception in Poland. That is why work is going on to produce an aerial of about 2m in diameter to ensure collective reception. The aerials of 90cm in diameter will be exported in exchange for tuners and converters for the reception of satellite television. It would seem that everything is just fine, but there is one problem. In order to produce an aerial of 2m in diameter we need metal sheets of 2.5m in diameter, but Polish metallurgy is still unable to produce sheets of this size....

The statement made by Engineer Wacław Tylawski, manager of the Polish Television Transmitting Facility and an activist of the Ursynow-Natolin Sociocultural Society, was hardly optimistic. Speaking of the technological potential, he said, we must not forget about legal issues, including copyright and licenses to screen programs. It is a pity that no interest has been taken in the conference by the communications department, because an authorized ministry must have a hand in dealing with licenses. Unless legal questions are solved, there can be

no talk about any dissemination of satellite programs via collective television installations. Such dissemination is illegal! Engineer Tylawski said that international law regards such dissemination as piracy.

Let us recall that the communications department's program for the development of radio and television up to the year 2000 states that the development of cable

television in Poland should be considered. We think it should be tackled right now!

Citing Hungarian experience, Engineer Tylawski also demolished the myths about the cost of individual satellite stations and about the difficulties of obtaining licenses, which, in the case of a noncommercial exploitation of programs, are generally free of charge.

Further on Ceausescu Visit to Australia

Toast to Prime Minister Hawke

AU181428 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian
13 Apr 88 pp 1, 3

["President Nicolae Ceausescu Toast" at luncheon given in his honor by Australian Prime Minister Robert James Lee Hawke in Canberra 12 April]

[Text] Mr Prime Minister, Mrs Hawke, ladies and gentlemen: We want to express thanks for the warm reception we have been given and for the words about us and about relations between Romania and Australia and between our two peoples.

We are in Australia for the first time. We have come here with the desire to lend new scope to relations between our countries. We are glad to note that in past years these relations have been positive as a result of our understandings and of an intensified exchange of delegations. All this has led to a better mutual understanding and to an expansion of bilateral relations in various areas of common interest.

We take pleasure in visiting your country in the year marking the bicentennial of the first European settlements in Australia. We congratulate you on this anniversary and, now that we are directly acquainted with the work and achievements of your people on the road of socioeconomic development, we want to wish you future successes.

Romania is involved in a comprehensive socioeconomic development program. Special attention is being paid to the intensive development of industry, agriculture, and the other branches of the national economy by broadly applying the most modern achievements of science and technology. With the people and for the people, we have built and we are developing a new society under our specific historic conditions. Within a broad democratic framework, the Romanian people today are participating in all social activities, in implementing the goals of proceeding to a new stage of development, and in achieving new quality in work and life by acting freely and being master of their destiny—as they always wished throughout the centuries—and by struggling for freedom, progress, and prosperity.

Mr Prime Minister, following the talks with the governor general and with you, and in the wake of the discussions during the coming days, we will undoubtedly seek new ways and means to develop Romanian-Australian cooperation fully in keeping with the economic potential of our countries and with our common desire to strengthen relations between our peoples to their mutual benefit and in the interest of peace and international cooperation.

In this sense, we have moved and continue to move from the fact that respecting the principles of full equality of rights, national independence and sovereignty, noninterference in domestic affairs, mutual advantage, and each people's right to freely decide the road of development constitute a basic requirement for all nations to assert themselves and for the progress of the whole of mankind.

Undoubtedly, differences in the social system cannot and should not be an obstacle on the road to international collaboration and cooperation.

I have listened to what you, Mr Prime Minister, and the leader of the opposition said, and I have the impression that there is a common desire to do everything so that broad cooperation may develop between Romania and Australia, which have different social systems. This is an imperative requirement, especially since there are numerous serious political, economic, and military problems in the world and certain conflicts and disputes still persist and become more serious all the time. Therefore, one cannot say that a radical change has occurred in the way of thinking and acting in the international arena.

Certain steps, still small ones, have been made in the direction of ensuring an atmosphere of understanding and detente. The signing of a treaty between the Soviet Union and the United States of America on intermediate- and shorter-range nuclear missiles is a special event and a victory of the policy of cooperation and peace. However, huge stockpiles of nuclear weapons still exist. Some states have even announced their intention to "modernize" the shorter-range missiles, and military expenditures exceed \$1 trillion. All this requires intensified efforts to achieve new accords on a real reduction of strategic nuclear weapons, halting tests with such weapons, and on the renunciation of militarizing outer space.

This is why we believe that all states and peoples in the world, irrespective of their sociopolitical system, must cooperate more actively to halt the dangerous trend of events toward confrontation and war and the firm assertion of the policy of detente, cooperation, and peace.

In this spirit, in 1986—on the basis of a national referendum in which all our people participated—Romania moved to a unilateral 5-percent cut in weapons, troops, and military expenditures. We call on all states, especially the heavily armed ones, to take tangible action and to move from words to deeds!

We are especially concerned about the situation in Europe. In this sense, we work to contribute to the successful conclusion of the all-European conference in Vienna, and to improving economic, scientific-technical, and other relations among the countries of the continent.

We struggle consistently to turn the area in which we are located, the Balkans, into a zone of peace and understanding, without nuclear and chemical weapons, and without foreign troops and military bases. We also

advocate the creation of such a zone in northern and central Europe, in South Asia, the Pacific, and in other parts of the world. In this sense, we hail the declaration of the South Pacific as a zone without nuclear weapons.

Romania consistently struggles to eliminate the use and threat of force in interstate relations, to stop conflicts, and to solve all disputes in various parts of the world—the Middle East, Central America, Asia, and Africa—solely by peaceful means and negotiations.

Facts demonstrate that the just and lasting solution of the complex problems in the world can be ensured only with the active and equal participation of all states, irrespective of size or social system.

We are very concerned about the deterioration of the world economic situation that actually affects all states in the world and especially the developing countries.

We advocate the organization of an international conference within the United Nations with the equal participation of both developing countries and the developed states in order to work out viable solutions aimed at a global settlement of all problems of underdevelopment, including the problem of foreign debts and inordinately high interest rates, and at achieving a new international economic order.

We believe that all peoples, realistic and advanced forces everywhere, and the strong peace movements are capable—through united action—of changing the dangerous trend of events and establishing a lasting atmosphere of detente, cooperation, and peace, and a better and more just world.

In this spirit we are in favor of enhancing the role of the United Nations in the democratic solution of all problems that determine the safeguarding of peace, peoples' progress and independence, and the future of mankind.

Mr Prime Minister, I am convinced that the visit we are paying to Australia, the talks, and the understandings that will be concluded will give a new impetus to cooperation between our countries and peoples in their mutual interests and to the benefit of the cause of peace and international cooperation. (applause)

Toast to Queensland Premier Ahern
AU181444 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian
13 Apr 88 p 3

["President Nicolae Ceausescu's Toast" at official dinner given in his honor by the Government of Queensland in Brisbane 12 April]

[Text] Mr Prime Minister, Mrs Ahern, ladies and gentlemen: I want to express warm thanks for the hospitable reception we enjoyed in your state and for the greetings and wishes you conveyed to us and to the Romanian people.

In turn, I would like to extend greetings and best wishes to you, Mr Prime Minister, to all those present here, and to the residents of the State of Queensland on our own behalf and on behalf of the Romanian people.

During our visit to Australia, which is an expression of the positive relations developing between our countries, we concluded new agreements opening up positive prospects for cooperation between our peoples.

We are glad to have the opportunity to visit your state of which you spoke with so much pride, and to conduct talks with the governor and with you, Mr Prime Minister, within the framework of which we will undoubtedly seek fresh opportunities to develop economic, scientific-technical, and friendly relations between our peoples.

On the occasion of Australia's bicentennial we convey warm greetings and best wishes.

Within the cooperation with Australia, the State of Queensland holds an important place, especially in mining and in other areas. I would like, during our visit here, for us to arrive, together with the respective companies, at long-term agreements in the area of coking coal and in other areas. This will set the foundation for more general cooperation and will intensify exchanges between Romania and your state, between Romania and Australia.

We firmly advocate the development of cooperation with all states, irrespective of social system. We base our relations on the principles of full equality of rights, respect for independence and national sovereignty, noninterference in domestic affairs and mutual advantage, and each people's right to build its future in keeping with its desires.

We want relations of cooperation to contribute to the progress of each nation, to the achievement of a better and more just world, to the policy of disarmament, primarily nuclear disarmament, and to solving all complex problems in the international arena in the interest of detente, cooperation, and peace.

Once again I would like to express our satisfaction with the visit we are paying to Australia and to your state and to express wishes for positive cooperation between Romania and the state of Queensland.

I wish the Australian people and the residents of your state progress, well-being, and happiness.

For friendship between Romania and Australia and between Romania and Queensland. (applause)

Toast to West Australia's Dowding
AU181713 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian
16 Apr 88 p 1

["President Nicolae Ceausescu's Toast" at dinner given in his honor by West Australian Prime Minister Peter Dowding on 15 April in Perth]

[Text] Mister Prime Minister, ladies and gentlemen: During our visit to Australia, we take particular pleasure in being the guests of the state of Western Australia. On behalf of my wife and on my own behalf, I take this opportunity, to extend to you, Mister Prime Minister, to all those who are present, and to all the inhabitants of the State of Western Australia cordial thanks for the hospitable reception you extended to us, warm greetings, and best wishes.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend to you—on Australia's bicentennial anniversary—warm greetings and wishes for new successes in developing your state.

The visit we are paying to Australia—and to your state, too—is an expression of the good relations that have been established and continue to develop between our countries and peoples, and of the joint wish to further develop economic and scientific-technical relations and further strengthen our friendship and mutually advantageous cooperation.

We are approaching the end of our visit to Australia. I can state that we have gained good impressions of everything we have seen and of the talks we held in Australia's capital city and in the two states we have visited. During our talks, we jointly reached the conclusion that there are great opportunities to develop cooperation in the field of the economy, technology, and other areas. We decided, together with the prime minister of Australia, to develop economic and other exchanges more markedly than has been done so far. These understandings have also been confirmed during the agreements we reached in the two states we visited, including your state.

There are several political personalities as well as businessmen in Western Australia who have visited Romania and had the opportunity to learn about the real provisions that exist to further develop relations between the two countries. Romania has developed greatly in the past 40 years, but particularly in the past 20 years.

We proceed from the principle of achieving broad cooperation with all countries of the world, regardless of their social system. We believe that economic, technological, cultural and other types of cooperation are extremely important for becoming more familiar with each other's activity and for developing friendship among nations.

Although our countries are located far away from each other, life has proved that distances can easily be overcome when people proceed from the principles of equality, respect for independence, sovereignty, and mutual advantage.

As is well known, economic exchanges and cooperation in various fields can be achieved only in conditions of peace. As a matter of fact, developing economic relations and achieving multifaceted cooperation among countries have always served the cause of friendship and peace among nations.

We wish our relations with Australia and with your state to exactly serve this policy of the socioeconomic development of each nation and their aspirations for progress, well-being, and peace. I firmly believe that the visit we are paying to Australia and to your state—a visit that is approaching its end—will contribute to a more marked development of economic exchanges, and we will increase visits and contacts in various fields of activity, including the contacts between our governments and countries and, within this context, certainly with Western Australia.

Let us do all we can and see to it that our relations serve the progress of our countries, their socioeconomic development, and serve peace and international cooperation! (applause)

President Ceausescu Arrives in Hanoi

For Hanoi and Bucharest accounts of the visit to the SRV by President Nicolae Ceausescu and his accompanying delegation, see the Vietnam section of the 18 April Southeast Asia DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

PZPR Delegation Meets With Olteanu, Stoian
AU152015 Bucharest AGERPRES in English
1711 GMT 15 Apr 88

[Text] Bucharest AGERPRES 15/4/1988—Over April 13-15 a delegation of the Warsaw town committee of the PUWP headed by Janusz Kubasiewicz, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CC of the PUWP, first secretary of the town party committee, paid a visit to Romania at the invitation of the Bucharest Municipality RCP Committee.

The members of the delegation had talks at the Bucharest Municipality RCP Committee with Constantin Olteanu, member of the Executive Political Committee of the CC of the RCP, first secretary of the Bucharest Municipality RCP Committee, visited industrial and farm units as well as places of social and cultural interest in Romania's capital.

At the end of the visit, the Polish guests were received by Ion Stoian, alternate member of the Executive Political Committee, secretary of the CC of the RCP.

During the talks held on the occasion satisfaction was expressed at the Romanian-Polish friendly and cooperative relations, as well as the wish to further expand and deepen them on multiple planes, in keeping with the understandings at the highest level, for the benefit and in the interest of the Romanian and Polish peoples.

Delegate Speaks to UN ECE Meeting in Geneva
AU161815 Bucharest AGERPRES in English
1754 GMT 16 Apr 88

[Text] Geneva (AGERPRES) 16/4/1988—Speaking during the general debates of the 43rd Annual Session of the UN/ECE [UN Economic Commission for Europe] taking place in Geneva, the Romanian representative highlighted the consistent policy promoted by his country for an enhanced participation in the international division of labour, a growing trade and economic and technical-scientific cooperation with all the states, no matter their sociopolitical system.

The speaker referred next to Romania's stance on the world economic crisis and its manifestations, on the persistence of serious unsolved problems and the need to step up efforts to establish a new international economic order. Emphasis was also placed on the urgent character of the global settlement of the developing countries' foreign debt problem, and proposals Romania made as regards ways of settling it were set forth.

Referring to the growing contribution of the UN/ECE to the promotion of trade among its member countries, the Romanian representative stressed the need for efforts to be channelled towards agreeing on ways and means of eliminating all kinds of barriers from trade among states. At the same time, greater attention should be paid to expanding industrial cooperation starting from the economic potential of the European countries and taking into account the exigencies of their development. The difficulties confronting the European developing countries in their economic relations with the developed countries require that the UN/ECE identify tangible measures the developed states should carry into effect to the end of ensuring a more favourable treatment of the developing countries as regards trade and economic, financial and industrial cooperation, the Romanian representative stressed.

Need for Growth Stressed
AU181959 Bucharest AGERPRES in English
1852 GMT 18 Apr 88

[Text] Geneva, AGERPRES, 18/04/1988—During the meeting by committees of the annual ECE/UN [UN Economic Commission for Europe] session, the Romanian delegate underscored the need for intensified efforts on the part of the commission's member states for the growth and diversification of their economic and technical cooperation in basic branches of industrial production and technological progress. Proposals were advanced for the expansion of mutually advantageous

cooperation in science and technology, the industrialization and automation of production processes, energy, agriculture, silviculture, transport and standardization.

Delegate Addresses IPU Group in Guatemala
AU152021 Bucharest AGERPRES in English
1845 GMT 15 Apr 88

[Text] Ciudad de Guatemala AGERPRES 15/4/1988—A meeting of parliamentary groups in Europe, the USA and Canada was held in Ciudad de Guatemala occasioned by the Inter-Parliamentary Union conference.

Romania's representative underlined the bilateral and multilateral actions of the Romanian parliamentary group referring to the continuation of the contacts with the groups in the Balkans for the organization of a meeting of the parliamentarians in that region devoted to an exchange of opinions on current issues of the promotion of friendship, understanding, collaboration and peace in the area. On behalf of the Romanian group, the speaker proposed that the Seventh Inter-Parliamentary Conference on Cooperation and Security in Europe in Bucharest be held on May 22-27, 1989. The Romanian parliamentary group's determination was expressed to do its utmost for that conference to mark an important moment of the actions taken by the groups of the states in Europe the USA and Canada within the Inter-Parliamentary Union for the transformation of Europe into a continent of collaboration, understanding, security and peace.

More on Address
AU161613 Bucharest AGERPRES in English
1434 GMT 16 Apr 88

[“Romanian Address to the Conference of the Inter-Parliamentary Union”—AGERPRES headline]

[Text] Guatemala City (AGERPRES) 16/4/1988—Speaking during the general debates of the 79th Conference of the Interparliamentary Union, the representative of the Romanian parliamentary group showed that an analysis of the world political, economic and social situation would evince the imperative for the parliaments, governments, peoples and all realistic forces to take stepped-up action for a new, democratic approach, in the interest and with the participation of all states, to the cardinal problems of our time, namely the halting of the arms race and a resolute passage to specific measures of disarmament, nuclear in particular as well as conventional, the safeguarding of individuals' foremost right to life, peace and a free, independent and dignified existence. Taking persevering action for the attainment of such goals, Romania shows special concern for the situation in Europe, the speaker said. Through the voice of its President Nicolae Ceausescu, the Romanian people called upon the NATO member states and the

Warsaw Treaty participating ones, the United States of America and the Soviet Union to give up the improvement and development of new nuclear weapons in Europe.

Next, the speaker referred to the complex disarmament programme suggested by Romania, to President Nicolae Ceausescu's outlook, considerations and initiatives regarding the need to extinguish the hotbeds of tension in various parts of the world and settle all international controversies by peaceful means exclusively, through political negotiations, and to build a new international economic order.

The initiative of the Romanian group was presented with regard to the calling of a Balkan parliamentary meeting on the promotion of broad collaboration and the transformation of this region into a zone of peace and good neighbourliness, free of nuclear and chemical weapons, without military bases.

Constantinescu Receives UK Trade Official
AU181639 Bucharest AGERPRES in English
1543 GMT 18 Apr 88

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 18/04/1988—Ion Constantinescu, deputy prime minister of Romania, received on April 18 Alan Clark, minister of state, department of trade, of Great Britain, who paid a visit to Romania.

During the talks on the occasion, they analyzed the current stage of the Romanian-British commercial exchanges, the possibilities to further enlarge and diversify these exchanges, to develop the economic, technological and scientific collaboration and cooperation in machine-building, electronics and electrical engineering, chemistry and petrochemistry, as well as in other domains of mutual interest.

The British minister conducted talks the same day with Ilie Vaduva, minister of foreign trade and international economic cooperation, and had interviews at the executives of the Ministry of Chemistry and Petrochemistry and the Ministry of Machine-Building Industry.

The guest also visited economic units and tourist sites in Bucharest and in Tulcea County.

Ceausescu Greets Kim Il-song on Birthday
AU181125 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian
15 Apr 88 p 5

[Message sent by President Nicolae Ceausescu to DPRK President Kim Il-song on his birthday]

[Text] To Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea and president of the DPRK, Pyongyang

On your birthday, dear friend Kim Il-song, I want to convey warmest congratulations on behalf of the RCP Central Committee, the Government of the SR of Romania, the Romanian people, and on my own behalf.

The Romanian people are following with keen interest and friendship and greatly appreciate the successes achieved by the friendly Korean people under the leadership of the Workers Party of Korea (WPK) headed by you in their work of building the socialist society and a free and prosperous Korea. I want to take this opportunity to wish the Korean people complete success in fulfilling the tasks of the current 7-year plan on the country's socioeconomic development and in their sustained efforts to achieve their national aspiration of a peaceful reunification of the homeland in accordance with the desire of all Korean people.

The RCP and Socialist Romania have expressed and consistently express their solidarity with and support for the initiatives and proposals made by the WPK and by you personally, including the new proposal on organizing a joint conference of North and South Korea, to achieve detente on the Korean Peninsula and the country's peaceful and independent reunification.

Expressing the conviction that relations of friendship and cooperation between our parties and peoples will continue to develop in the spirit of the talks and understandings we have concluded together, I want to convey best wishes for good health and personal happiness to you, and wishes for fresh successes in the your activity aimed at the prosperity of the Korean people and at safeguarding peace and ensuring cooperation and understanding in the world.

Nicolae Ceausescu, RCP secretary general and president of the SR of Romania

Ceausescu Greets Li Xiannian on Election
AU181731 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian
14 Apr 88 p 5

[President Nicolae Ceausescu's congratulatory cable to Li Xiannian on election as chairman of China People's Political Consultative Conference]

[Text] To Comrade Li Xiannian, chairman of the National Committee of the China People's Political Consultative Conference,

Your election as chairman of the China People's Political Consultative Conference affords me the pleasant opportunity to extend warm congratulations.

I want to express the conviction that the constant development of relations between the Socialist Democracy and Unity Front of the SR of Romania and the China

People's Political Consultative Conference will continue to contribute to strengthening friendship and traditional cooperation between the Romanian and Chinese peoples.

Nicolae Ceausescu, president of the SR of Romania and chairman of the Socialist Democracy and Unity Front

Environmental Protection Measures Reviewed

AU181908 Bucharest AGERPRES in English
1819 GMT 18 Apr 88

["Environmental Protection in Romania"—AGERPRES Headline]

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 18/4/1988—Environmental protection is one of Romania's major concerns, as is proved by both legal and institutional regulations in force and the material conditions that have been created for the continuous improvement of the quality of the environment.

The programmes for the country's economic and social development also envisage lines of action towards environmental protection and pollution control, which refer to a rational utilization of natural resources and their efficient capitalization, the development of renewable resources, the application of nonpolluting or less polluting production technologies and the fast-paced development of advanced technologies and systems to protect the air, water and soil and provide for the recovery of usable wastes.

In consideration of the aforesaid lines of action, the Romanian industry manufactured a number of air- and water-protection installations, as well as devices that

render wastes suitable for economic purposes. Furthermore, scientific research and technological development actions have been taken to protect the soil and the subsoil, the flora and the fauna, as well as human settlements. So, for instance, modern installations were manufactured for the purification of waste gas in all economic branches and waste-water-purification installations were developed on all large industrial sites to protect rivers. To protect the soil and improve its quality extensive operations were performed, under special programmes. Works were undertaken to prevent and control soil erosion, land slides and floods and special attention was paid to safeguarding the integrity of the country's forests, the wooded area being maintained within planned limits.

An automatic air pollution monitoring system and a system that monitors the quality of the soil, both designed and manufactured in Romania, contribute to maintaining the quality of environmental factors.

The first of the aforesaid systems includes six monitoring stations, situated in mountainous regions, in Stina de Vale, Bihor County, Rarau, Suceava County, Turia, in the Vrancea area, Fundata, in the Bran area, Paring and Semenic in the Western part of Romania. These monitoring stations are part of the global environmental system that monitors the quality of the environment and they determine the physical and chemical parameters of precipitations, sulfur oxides, suspended powder, carbon dioxide and ozone, along with meteorological parameters. The data supplied by this system are periodically transmitted to the world meteorological organization and to the United Nations Environment Programme.

As for the soil monitoring system, it includes pedological and agrochemical stations and laboratories located in cereal farming areas.

Agreement With IMF To Take Effect 15 May
LD181859 Belgrade TANJUG in English
1627 GMT 18 Apr 88

[Text] Belgrade, April 18 (TANJUG)—The agreement on a new stand-by arrangement between Yugoslavia and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) is expected to take effect on May 15, Yugoslav Government Member Oskar Kovac said today.

He spoke about the memorandum on the one-year stand-by arrangement in the Yugoslav Chamber of Economy today. The government submitted the memorandum to the Assembly of Yugoslavia for adoption.

Yugoslavia's debt to the IMF stood at 2.3 billion dollars at the end of last year with 90 percent of the amount falling due by the end of the decade.

Kovac said Yugoslavia this year intends to take 5.1 billion dollars in foreign credits, of which 2.3 billion dollars will be used to refinance debts which are due.

According to the latest figures of the Yugoslav Central Bank, Yugoslavia's foreign debts, medium- and long-term, stood at 19 billion 482.9 million dollars on September 30 last year. 18 billion 128.3 million dollars of that amount is in convertible currency.

Kronic Cables 'Arafat on Abu Jihad's Death
LD181403 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service
in Serbo-Croatian 0948 GMT 18 Apr 88

[Text] Belgrade, 18 Apr (TANJUG)—Bosko Kronic, president of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, has sent the following telegram to Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee:

In connection with the dastardly murder of Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], the prominent leader of the Palestinian people, I am conveying to you the sentiments of profound condolences and fraternal solidarity of Yugoslav Communists and of the working class of Yugoslavia. We are convinced that this terrorist and criminal act, and your great loss, will not cause the Palestinian people to waver in their struggle for the implementation of their legitimate rights, which will continue to enjoy the resolute support of the LCY.

Price, Market Liberalization Proposed
LD181902 Belgrade TANJUG in English
1740 GMT 18 Apr 88

["Pool" Item]

[Text] Belgrade, April 18 (TANJUG)—The Yugoslav Government has proposed to the Assembly of Yugoslavia that prices, imports and the foreign-currency market be liberalized as of May 15th, as part of new economic policy measures.

The government proposal, submitted to the Assembly today, is a long awaited document which is to take the place of the so-called "intervention laws", i.e., to end a six-month freeze of prices and pays.

The proposal, as government member Oskar Kovac explained in the Federal Chamber of Economy today, calls for 60 percent of the prices on the Yugoslav market to be freely formed and not be subject to administrative control.

The liberalization of imports, as Kovac set out, is to be adjusted to the liberalization of prices. Around 40 percent of imports of raw materials and semi-manufactures would not be administratively controlled. That, coupled with the existing imports through long-term production cooperation and joint investments, would mean that 60 percent of the overall purchase abroad would be liberalized.

Under the government proposal, the percentage of the prices and imported goods on the free market is to go up by a further 10 percent next year, while a full liberalization of prices and imports would take effect in 1990, bearing in mind the economy's endurance. Explaining the proposed liberalization of the foreign-currency market, Kovac said it envisaged that "Everybody be given access to demand". Kovac underscored that the law of supply and demand should be the decisive criterion in establishing the exchange rate of the national currency against the hard currencies.

The Yugoslav Government proposal specifies that the concept of the new measures is based on a 90-95 percent inflation in 1988.

Mikulic Views Nationality Relations, Economy
LD172059 Budapest Television Service
in Hungarian 1700 GMT 17 Apr 88

[Interview with Branko Mikulic, chairman of the Yugoslav FEC and head of the Yugoslav Government, by unidentified correspondent; Mikulic speaks in Serbo-Croatian with superimposed Hungarian translation; date and place of interview not specified—recorded; from "The Week" program]

[Text] [Announcer] Branko Mikulic, chairman of the Yugoslav FEC and head of the Yugoslav Government, was a guest of our country. During his visit he spoke several times about the policy on nationalities, and in the interview which now follows he also points out how big a role is played by the nationalities in deepening the two countries' friendship. These are statements that nowadays can be of particular interest. They confirm to us in our outlook that this is one way of doing things, and what is more, this is the only way they should be done.

[Unidentified correspondent] At the start of 1988 we were able to witness a certain degree of enlivening of the Yugoslav economy. Industrial output once again

increased, export grew. On the other hand, inflation, which is still in three figures, went down only in regard to its rate of growth. Therefore, the Yugoslav economy is still in a difficult situation. What plans does the federal government now have for the stabilization of the economy? What are the most important economic priorities?

[Mikulic] In the first quarter of this year, we were indeed able to see an enlivening of economic activity. We are particularly satisfied with the results we achieved in export and within that in the sphere of convertible export. We can show a positive balance in our convertible trade turnover, for the first time in Yugoslavia's history, in the first quarter of this year. We managed to realize an export surplus of nearly \$130 million. In the next period the realization of the economic reform will be our fundamental task. The way I would put it is to say that we would realize this in two phases.

Last November we adopted a program of measures and action for bringing down inflation. As a constituent part of this program, we decided on central intervention measures, including a price freeze. We took these measures in order to provide a breathing space for preparing a complex draft program with which we will later replace these intervention measures. The new program will have to come into force in mid May. Among its constituent parts will be the liberalization of prices and imports, and the shaping of the dinar exchange policy. The other part of the program will be the balancing out of demand. We want to create a balance of supply and demand on the market. Insofar as the balancing out of demand is concerned, this will affect first and foremost community consumption, personal consumption, and credit and finance policies. That could be the May program. At the same time we are working on the draft of a complex reform to the Yugoslav economic system. We will implement this in part even before the adoption of the amendment of the Yugoslav Constitution. We have set the date of the end of November as the time for the adoption of the Constitution. Everything that the present Constitution does not allow we shall implement immediately after the adoption of the amended Constitution. With these reforms, our objective is to achieve a dynamic economic growth amid stable conditions.

[Correspondent] The complaint is often made in Yugoslavia that the market is not unified within the country, that in this way a unified economic policy cannot be asserted, that in these conditions the federal government can implement its program only with great difficulty, and that it is not able to control the way its decrees are being implemented in the individual republics and provinces. Can some sort of progress be expected in this sphere, and could the amendment of the Constitution, about which people speak so much nowadays in Yugoslavia, promote a change in this direction?

[Mikulic] Yes, the objective of constitutional reform is in part to put a stop to certain shortcomings that have obstructed us in creating a unified economic system. In

this way we would also be guaranteeing the unified functioning of the Yugoslav market. In my view this is a basic issue. It applies to the tax system, tax policy, the credit and finance policies, and to income policy. Once we have resolved these issues through the amendment of the Constitution and the laws relating to the economic system, then the implementation of the federal government's policy can also be more successful. At present we have several kinds of taxation system and tax policy in the country. In this originate, logically, all the problems that you have indicated. I hope that after the adoption of the constitutional amendment, and when the laws relating to the economic system have been passed, we shall be able to resolve these problems.

[Correspondent] In Hungary and Yugoslavia alike the view is held that the nationalities fulfill the role of a bridge, of a connecting link, between the two neighboring countries. What is your opinion about the realization of this principle?

[Mikulic] I am of the view that in this regard there are no unanswered questions between our two countries. This is natural. Both we and our Hungarian comrades strive to guarantee as much freedom as possible to the nationalities in Yugoslavia and to the national minorities in Hungary. The Croatian, the Slovene, and the Serbian national minorities in Hungary—just as the Hungarian national minority in Yugoslavia—can play an extraordinarily significant role in strengthening the friendship between our countries and our peoples, in harmony precisely with the equality of rights that we guarantee for these national minorities, and for the Hungarian nationality in Yugoslavia. As I have said, there are no unanswered questions between us in this sphere, and I am of the view that we can state with certainty that our countries' relationship one to the other in this regard can also serve as an example toward resolving this issue. This naturally does not mean that we can be totally satisfied because one can always do more. We will not be overdoing things if we constantly strive toward the national minorities, and the Yugoslav nationalities, obtaining ever more freedom, thus also nationality freedom rights. This is one of the components of universal human rights. This goes hand in hand with the democratic processes in our countries and in every human community. Without these democratic processes there are no freedom of rights for nationalities.

Institution of State Presidency Supported
LD182102 Belgrade TANJUG in English
 1208 GMT 18 Apr 88

[Text] Belgrade, April 18 (TANJUG)—The collective state Presidency as a head of state is more suitable to Yugoslavia than a president of the republic, said Vidoje Zarkovic, member of the innermost leadership of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia (LCY). "Since the introduction of the collective head of state a few years

ago, the State Presidency has been run in and I believe that this method of work should continue, and not be abandoned," Zarkovic said in an interview to Belgrade television.

The proposal to re-establish the function of the president of the republic with a four-year term, as during the time of the late President Tito, which was heard for the first time a year ago, has now reappeared in the public debate on changes in the country's Constitution.

The proposals to abolish the eight-member State Presidency (one member from each of the six republics and two autonomous provinces) have been made by the workers, the young people and other sections of society. So far, Zarkovic has been the only top-ranking party official to express his opinion on this to millions of television viewers.

Zarkovic also replied to a number of questions on the place and role of the LCY, whose two million membership is currently preparing for a federal party conference on seeking a way out of the crisis.

"If it wants to develop and make progress, even in present conditions our society cannot do without the LCY as chief initiator of political activities and in order to protect and further develop the achievements of our revolution," Zarkovic said.

He said that a "poor action unity" was one of the party's major weaknesses and that its restoration was "one of the major preconditions for overcoming the present crisis."

Constitutional Amendment Process Assessed
*LD181222 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service
in Serbo-Croatian 1011 GMT 18 Apr 88*

[Excerpt] Belgrade, 18 Apr (TANJUG)—In connection with a formal proposal from Slovenia, the coordination group of the SFRY Assembly Constitutional Commission has made the assessment that there is no need for the Constitutional Commission to start a discussion on the gradual adoption of amendments. The Constitution is quite clear on the way it can be changed.

This is not the first time this demand has been made. It is being repeated even after it was firmly rejected at a session of the SAWPY Federal Conference. Attention was drawn at that session to the fact that the "piecemeal" adoption of amendments was contrary to the Constitution. The persistent invoking of the Slovene SAWP delegate conference last autumn was also sharply criticized. At the conference, it was decided which amendments should be supported, which should be amplified, and which rejected. Why do you then have a public debate on the draft amendments, and where is the categorical insistence on one's own views, regardless of the arguments against, leading to?

As is known, in the final phase of changing the Constitution, the Federal Chamber, by a two thirds majority, established the draft amendments as a whole. The text of amendments thus approved is not subject to any changes, but the assemblies of the republics and of the provinces express their views on them, as a whole. The opposition of one assembly to one single amendment entails the whole procedure to be put in abeyance for 1 year.

Irrespective of what one thinks of this procedure, any other way of changing the Constitution is anticonstitutional. The fact is worrying, therefore, that organizations and organs, which by definition should be in the front ranks of the struggle for constitutionality, demand deviation from the Constitution, but they have no observations to make on the established procedure to change the Constitution, and are not asking for its revision. [passage omitted] [signed] Julija Bogoeva [not listed in bureau files]

Kosovo Presidency Condemns Albanian Nationalists
*AU181533 Belgrade Domestic Service
in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 18 Apr 88*

[Text] The Kosovo Presidency adopted the tasks involved in carrying out the SFRY Presidency's assessments and stands on protecting our system and country.

In this connection, it was established that, despite all the activities to stabilize the political-security situation in the province, there are still activities by Albanian nationalists and separatists. This creates a feeling of insecurity and encourages the emigration of Serbs and Montenegrins. The complex situation in the province, the statement issued at the session points out, is burdened by increasingly organized Serb and Montenegrin nationalism. This is particularly demonstrated through the encouragement and organization of single nationality gatherings at which, in addition to realistic demands, demands that are completely opposed to the LC's policy are also expressed.

Recently, during discussions on constitutional changes, there have been more intensified attempts by various groups and individuals who, at various gatherings and public forum discussions, as well as through petitions, propose and advocate solutions completely opposed to the equality of the peoples and nationalities, socialist self-management, and the constitutional positions of the province.

The Kosovo Presidency concluded that it is necessary to intensify activities in order to resolutely oppose all these attacks because hostile activities aimed at undermining and destroying our political system and constitutional organization cannot be tolerated anywhere, the statement points out.

Pristina LC Debates Security Situation
AU171951 Pristina RILINDJA in Albanian
9 Apr 88 p 1,4

[G. Bajrami, Y. Avdiu report: "Only Democracy Can Extract Us From the Crisis"]

[Text] Yesterday's meeting of the Pristina LC Communal Committee examined and approved the report submitted on its own work and that of its Presidium for the last 2-year period. It also approved the plan of work for the coming year. Taking part in the meeting were Azem Vlasi, president of the Kosovo LC Provincial Committee Presidium; Zoran Sokolovic, secretary to the Serbian LC Central Committee Presidium; Milomir Minic, executive secretary to the Serbian LC Central Committee Presidium; Rahman Dedaj, member of the Kosovo LC Provincial Committee Presidium; and Miroslav Markovic, member of the Serbian LC Central Committee.

Dr Ragip Halili delivered the opening speech on the report of the 2 years of work of the Pristina LC Communal Committee and its Presidium.

A special meeting of the Pristina LC Communal Committee Presidium elected Hysamedin Azemi as its president, and Zivojin Mitrovic as its secretary.

A Clear Difference Between Genuine and Unacceptable Demands [subhead]

Dr Ragip Halili, in his opening speech on the report of the 2 years of work of the Pristina LC Communal Committee, stressed the basic directions of the activity carried out during this period and various current issues in work at the party base. It must be emphasized, he said, that we have several times assessed party activity within the context of performing the tasks set by the conclusions of the ninth LCY Central Committee plenum and by the program for these tasks drawn up by the Pristina LC Communal Committee Presidium. Our primary duty is to stabilize the political and security situation in this commune, which, in spite of the commitment of the LC and other organized forces, has been tense and serious. It has been marked by the hostile and illegal activity of Albanian nationalism and irredentism, which has still been present, although circumscribed by the vigilance of subjective forces that have condemned and exposed its platform. The enemy repeatedly surfaces in different forms and with different methods. Such hostile activity often intensifies at the very moments when the LC and other organized socialist forces undertake specific activities in performing the tasks they have set themselves. There was such activity after the ninth LCY Central Committee plenum, and now that we are on the threshold of the LC conferences, the present time is marked by excesses, conflicts, and intranational assaults. However, such forces can achieve nothing apart from upsetting citizens. This is because our organs, as before, are uncovering in time every group and every individual

attempt to act from such positions, in spite of their efforts to adapt to new circumstances.

Talking about the attempts of the province and of Pristina Commune to halt the Serbian and Montenegrin emigration that is a result of the insecurity felt since the counterrevolutionary events of 1981 and of excesses and duress of various kinds on the part of Albanian nationalists and separatists, Dr Ragip Halili said that this situation also roused Serbian and Montenegrin nationalism, which was attempting to manipulate the genuine problems of this section of the population, to deepen intranational distrust, and to create an anti-Albanian atmosphere. It mainly finds expression in single-nationality gatherings. It must be said, he added, that these gatherings are for the most part held because of genuine grievances, various excesses, and failures to solve the problems of Serbs and Montenegrins, yet there is a great deal said at them by certain individuals that is unacceptable. We have already issued assessments of these gatherings. There is once again a trend toward such gatherings, as at Obilic and Plemetina, because of various excesses and unsolved problems. Ideopolitical activity must therefore be increased to resolve problems, so as to remove the causes of such gatherings. Yet, at the same time, there must be a clear difference between genuine demands and unacceptable statements and claims, Dr Ragip Halili concluded.

After Dr Ragip Halili's opening speech, a wide-ranging discussion developed on the activity of Pristina Communal LC organizations. It was a curious fact that a polarization for and against the submitted report was evident from the very start of the discussion. Some of the speakers demanded that the report should be more specific as regards its consideration of the work and commitment of certain bodies, while others stressed that it is not possible for the report to include every detail, but can only deal with the principal aspects of what work has been done. The essence of the criticism voiced by a number of participants in the discussion concerned the way in which cadre policy has been pursued. According to these speakers, although cadre policy is carried out in the name of democratization, there is in fact precious little democracy in the way it is pursued.

All the 17 participants in the discussion, including the opening speaker, stressed that the ninth LCY Central Committee plenum had inaugurated a new process in the life and work of the party in our provincial capital. It is a fact that a large number of issues have been tackled during this period, of which some have been solved, and others are now being settled. Although most speakers emphasized that difficulties face the party at the base, they expressed the conviction that these difficulties can be overcome only with total unity in ideology and action at all levels of the party organization. In fact, they stressed, this unity is now more necessary than ever.

Intensifying Political Work With the Masses [subhead]

Joining the discussion, Zoran Sokolovic stressed that Pristina is the capital of the province, where the workers

class, the intelligentsia, and young people of school age are concentrated. The larger part of the Serbian and Montenegrin population is concentrated here, and the city therefore becomes a focus for the activity of Albanian nationalism and separatism. We also have the most emigration of Serbs and Montenegrins from here. He then advocated a more realistic assessment of the situation and more intensive ideopolitical activity. He went on to speak about the tasks set by the ninth LCY Central Committee plenum, and expressed dissatisfaction that these are not being performed according to plan. In connection with these tasks, he said, the Serbian LC will perform all its obligations without fail. Other forces in the SR of Serbia are equally ready, and they will perform all their economic and political duties as set forth in the all-Yugoslav program for Kosovo.

Zoran Sokolovic devoted part of his speech to the themes of a consistent struggle against Albanian nationalism, restoring intranational trust, and overcoming national divisions. Results in these fields must not remain merely on paper, but must be evident in daily life. In this context, he posed the question of whether we could achieve better results in performing the obligations we shouldered at the plenum about Kosovo 10 months ago. Last year, 527 instances of attacks and pressure of various kinds against Serbs and Montenegrins were recorded in Kosovo, which is significantly more than 2 years ago. This is a sign that state and judicial bodies must be called to responsibility. Authorities that are unable to protect citizens are no use to us. The work of these authorities must be reliable, responsible, and effective. We must be able to say whether the competent authorities in Pristina and the province are alert, and whether they have the ability to ensure and guarantee the safety of every citizen in every district.

He went on to comment on the work of party organizations and called for more intensive work with the broad masses of the people, because working people and citizens cannot be mobilized toward performing duties on the LC program without work of this mass character. In this context, he also broached the topic of the gatherings of Serbs and Montenegrins, which have been subject to analysis and political assessment at different levels. We have held the view that these gatherings are not nationalist, in spite of the fact that there are individuals attending them who attempt to manipulate the masses. These gatherings must not become a standard procedure of political activity. The meetings are a symptom, and their causes are discontent and the failure to solve problems. He devoted part of his speech to Serbian and Montenegrin emigration and the need to use every method to stop it. For us, every individual case of emigration is a defeat in the struggle to stabilize the situation in Kosovo. According to the data, 2,828 Serbs and Montenegrins emigrated from Kosovo last year, of whom more than 500 were from Pristina Commune. This indicates that Albanian nationalism and separatism is still strong, aggressive, and well-organized, and that it

adapts its methods to changing situations. In its struggle to stabilize political events in Kosovo, the Serbian LC has never allowed Serbian nationalism to spread hatred, intolerance, and revanchism, and never will do so. The Serbian LC will oppose any such attempts at every step, just as it did when Serbian nationalism became evident in some clubs.

Zoran Sokolovic concluded his speech by discussing various aspects of cadre policy, in which in his view there have been shortcomings and inconsistencies. Cadre policy must be democratized and must respond to the views of public opinion beyond the party membership.

Not Abusing Democracy [subhead]

Azem Vlasi, president of the Kosovo LC Provincial Committee Presidium, stressed that the general sociopolitical situation, and especially the economic situation, is serious. The security situation is somewhat more favorable, although some excesses have recently occurred which have encumbered it further. After recalling that there has been no society that has not encountered great and serious problems and difficulties in the course of its development, Azem Vlasi stressed that the number of critical voices has multiplied as our crisis has gone on. There are people who try to cause panic, and who have become obsessed with dreaming up vicious phrases and terminology, in order to depict the situation here as being as bad as it can be. There are very few serious and constructive approaches that attempt to find the most just way to solve problems and to change the situation for the better. It is for this reason, Azem Vlasi pointed out, that Yugoslavia needs a genuine, united, and comprehensive program, to emerge first of all from its economic crisis, but also from its general social crisis. We have many ingredients for such a program, and have assessed many matters in the current state of the country. However, to make our responses and standpoints complement many open issues, we must draft a single program of measures in order to emerge from the crisis faster. It is the LC that bears the largest responsibility for drawing up such a program for united action, and the forthcoming LC Conference is expected to yield fruit of this kind. However, there must be no illusions of any kind that this conference will mark a dramatic turning point, in the sense that everything will be different after it.

We must take small but sure steps every day in our clear and comprehensive strategy of how to emerge from the crisis, so that we neither mark time nor move too fast. Of course, this way of finding solutions to the crisis must involve and rely exclusively upon strengthening democratic, socialist, and self-managing relations. We can only emerge successfully from our difficulties in a democratic way, which implies the active and creative involvement of the working masses. Azem Vlasi pointed

out. We must have keen vigilance throughout the country so that seriously hostile, antisocialist, and anticommunist ideas, concepts, and trends are not imposed upon us, as is happening in some places.

We cannot produce crude concepts and ideas, which in fact call for the destruction of socialist self-management and of the Yugoslav federation in the name of democracy and democratic participation in public discussion of constitutional changes, and in the name of societies and groups. We cannot serve up foggy ideas of a civil, bourgeois Yugoslavia on the lines of the state that was destroyed by the revolution. The all-people's defense system and the Yugoslav People's Army cannot be brutally attacked in the name of democracy and eliminating taboo topics. The name of democracy cannot be used to excuse lies, petite bourgeois speculation, intrigues, half-truths, and tortured interpretations that attack and vilify personalities and events from the revolution, and leaders and cadres who are consistently fighting for the goals of our revolution, our system, and LCY policy. Petite bourgeois arbitrariness, and subjectivism adorned with lies and half-truths, cannot be allowed to infiltrate our media in the name of democracy.

Not Directives, but Tangible Assistance [subhead]

In our work to further solve problems in Kosovo, Azem Vlasi added, we must continually bear in mind the situation in the entire country, first of all because a thorough and long-term solution of the general situation in Kosovo must have a Yugoslav dimension in its conception of Yugoslavia as a single, federal, self-managing, and democratic community of equal peoples and nationalities. Second, solving the currently critical situation in Kosovo may be more readily found in a single conception of a solution for the situation of crisis in the country as a whole. Third, we, like others, and as a part of Yugoslavia and the SR of Serbia, will contribute to the country's stability as a whole by working toward solving our own problems as well as possible. It would be shortsighted to leave us trailing in an inferior position, as people only supposed to settle certain excesses, to perform duties sent down from higher levels, and to repeat familiar phrases from assessments, with no creative relationship to the general situation in the province, the SR of Serbia, and the country. A creative rapport with the whole of the situation and toward specific individual problems may bring to the fore the unexploited strengths of Communists, the workers class, and citizens, and put them to work to solve problems in every part of the province.

Azem Vlasi went on to say that our mistake lies in imagining it is sufficient to adopt standpoints and set forth tasks at meetings, and to encourage courts and state bodies to work faster, for everything to be all right. The broad masses of society, and I am thinking here of all the institutions of the system, has still not achieved a turning point sufficiently radical to effectively solve all problems

in every environment and social sphere. I am not attempting to deny the important work that has been done during this period everywhere, including in Pristina Commune, because the results that have been achieved must not be underestimated. Azem Vlasi went on to say that it is not easy to assess serious situations according to the logic of "what will happen otherwise," and that I myself often wonder what would have happened following the accumulation of problems down the years, and after the brutal and frankly counterrevolutionary attempt of the Albanian nationalists in 1981 that tried to destroy our community, if it had not been for the intensive, painful, but determined action of the LC and other progressive forces in Kosovo. Of course the assistance, support, and commitment of the broad social community, especially the SR of Serbia, has been of great importance, but there would have been no action that could have yielded results and prevented the slide toward the abyss in 1981 if it had not been initiated and pushed through by progressive forces in Kosovo itself. It is for this reason that I think that assertions denying everything that has been done in the province to solve current problems, especially since the ninth LCY Central Committee plenum, are meaningless, essentially harmful, and even malevolent, Azem Vlasi said. The results and changes, especially in essential issues, are still far from what we wish. I am particularly thinking here of the emigration of Serbs and Montenegrins, which remains a marked tendency, and about solving socioeconomic problems. Viewed realistically, the nature, causes, and true dimensions of some problems are objectively greater than the results of our activity and the opportunities available to solve them fast.

We in the Kosovo LC have laid down clear directions and methods of work which imply the joint action of all Communists and other progressive forces from the ranks of all peoples and nationalities to solve current problems. We have confirmed this policy, especially since the ninth LCY Central Committee plenum. It is therefore unacceptable for anyone to adopt the position of an onlooker, content merely to investigate unsolved problems, to continually send lists of demands and requests to communal leaders and higher leaders, sometimes in the form of an ultimatum, and to expect ready-made solutions, while expending no effort himself. Some individuals do not even wait for their demands to reach their destined recipients before they assert that their demands will be of no use. They then engage in arbitrary, unacceptable, and malevolent attacks on authorities and institutions of the system, on leaders, and individuals. It is understandable that criticism of leaders, cadres, and institutions should become harsher in a complicated social situation. But when this criticism takes on a destructive color, and the same ideas about what should be done and what things should be changed are repeated, then Communists should ask what this means and where it leads to.

[The following passage appears boxed within the body of the item]

It Is Dangerous To Manipulate the People [subhead]

We cannot allow the distortion of the criteria by which Communists' revolutionary vigilance is assessed, so that somebody's revolutionary spirit is judged by how much he demands, by what he denies, and how much he vilifies leaders, cadres, and organizations. It is even more dangerous when someone manipulates the name of the people, saying that the people demand this or want that. The people want visible and creative work from individuals at every level of authority up to the highest, so that problems can be resolved. They do not want empty words, Azem Vlasi said.

Unacceptable Ideas [subhead]

It is very mistaken to imagine that the war against Albanian nationalism can be more successfully waged if people gather on a national basis, in other words without the Albanians, and that nationalism can be attacked in this way. Experience has shown that something else happens in such cases: Serbian nationalism and even anti-Albanian chauvinism appear. This is dangerous and merely hampers us Albanians Communists and jeopardizes our position in the struggle against Albanian nationalism.

It is a similarly dangerous to imagine that tolerating Serbian nationalism can positively affect the position of the Serbs and Montenegrins. Some people even assert that issuing assessments of Serbian and Montenegrin nationalism, especially in certain specific instances, disturbs the Serbs and Montenegrins and encourages emigration. In consequence, there is a tendency to confine assessments of Serbian nationalism to the realm of abstract phraseology, and to avoid the application of such assessments to any specific case.

Of course, we cannot produce any kind of equilibrium or seek an artificial equation between nationalisms. This would be politically naive and intolerable. But not every mention of this form of nationalism can be rejected as an attempt to impose an equation. I mention this, so that Serbian and Montenegrin Communists may understand the essence of this problem and begin to struggle against the ways in which Serbian nationalism expresses itself, for I see no use in the Albanians alone trying to stopping this nationalism. Serbs and Montenegrins in Kosovo, and Communists first of all, cannot dare to allow anybody else, from their own motives and for their own ends, to manipulate both them and the situation in which we find ourselves together, Azem Vlasi said. [end of boxed passage]

The Battle Against Nationalism Can Only Be Won on a Class Basis [subhead]

Until the ninth LCY Central Committee plenum, and for a time after it, it was difficult for us to mobilize Communists, working people, and citizens, to gather them together in the SAWP and the LC, and to orient them

correctly toward all negative phenomena, attacks, excesses—especially when these were aimed at disrupting intranational relations. We have now achieved this. However, some circles and individuals nevertheless exploit these incidents to organize gatherings on a national basis, where all kinds of things are said.

Azem Vlasi went on to say that the LCY, since its platform on Kosovo in 1981, had expressed a clear standpoint, demonstrated in its subsequent documents, that the struggle against Albanian nationalism can be won only if its main burden is borne by Communists and progressive forces from the ranks of the Albanian nationality. They themselves desire this, but require principled assistance. Azem Vlasi said that spreading the theory that this struggle has achieved nothing, that the Albanians are all the same, and that you can find an honest one only here and there, and spreading the fear that nationalists and separatists are all around us not only does not help the struggle against Albanian nationalism, but forces the Albanians into a position of national homogeneity, and makes them close their ranks. It follows that there can be no differentiation, and no ideopolitical struggle from a Marxist class position, because clear differentiation can only be made and a struggle against nationalism can only be successfully waged on a socialist and class basis. National homogenization suits nobody but the nationalists. However, such tendencies are unfortunately present everywhere, and not only among the Albanians. Single-nationality gatherings also promote these tendencies, and further deepen polarization.

Certain excesses that have taken place in recent days in different parts of the province deserve proper attention. These excesses have further exacerbated the political climate, both locally and beyond, both because of the motives and aims of the culprits, and the consequences and reactions the excesses have given rise to. It is obvious that they were premeditated and were designed to cause discontent, insecurity, and alarm, primarily among Serbian and Montenegrin citizens. Their aim is to distract attention from essential problems, to deepen mistrust, to exacerbate intranational relations, and to spread the belief that there is no stability in Kosovo. Such attempts must be opposed with all our strength. Since Serbs and Montenegrins have also been assaulted in these incidents, it is a good thing that the Albanians in Djurakovac and Obilic have particularly harshly condemned them. As the largest collective group, the Albanians also bear the largest responsibility for securing a quiet life for the Serbs, Montenegrins, and others, and for halting emigration, while the Serbs and Montenegrins must not give any scope to those individuals who seek to manipulate them by means of these gatherings.

In conclusion, Azem Vlasi also spoke about cadre policy and the current elections.

[The following passage appears boxed within the body of the item]

Cadre policy was one of the most mentioned topics during yesterday's 7-hour discussion. As emerged at the end of the meeting, this matter also began to be colored by politicization, and even national polarization. In fact, a number of members of this party body from the ranks of the Serbian and Montenegrin nationalities did not agree with the procedure followed for nominations for the posts of president, and especially secretary, of the Pristina LC Communal Committee.

Dr Ragip Halili informed the members of the committee that the nominations of candidates for these positions had been initiated by the Pristina LC Communal Committee Presidium, and that, following the necessary consultations with the relevant persons, a short list had been prepared and discussed by the Presidiums of LC regional action conferences within Pristina Commune. The nominated candidates had been unanimously supported, although the Kosovo Polje and Gracanica action conference presidiums had demanded that the short list for the post of secretary be extended to include Momcilo Trajkovic. As Dr Ragip Halili said, the entire procedure had been carried out in democratic fashion and did not deserve to be politicized, still less when no member of the committee was contesting either the nomination or election of the candidates agreed upon.

However, as a sign of disagreement with the conduct of the nomination procedure, Pavle Jovanovic, member of the Pristina LC Communal Committee Presidium, submitted his resignation from membership of the committee and from his post as member of its Presidium. Momcilo Trajkovic, executive secretary, and Novica Jakovlevic, member of the committee, followed suit. The members of the Pristina LC Communal Committee did not accept these resignations and resolved to discuss them at the next meeting, after the issue has been discussed by the Pristina LC Communal Committee Presidium.

SAWPY Presidium Discusses BORBA
*AU171638 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service
in Serbo-Croatian 1105 GMT 15 Apr 88*

["SAWPY Federal Conference Presidium"—TANJUG headline]

[Excerpts] Belgrade 15 Apr (TANJUG)—Tito represented and still represents a neverending source of inspiration for the affirmation of all the values of our revolution, for the development of socialist self-management, brotherhood and unity, and all that our revolution has achieved until now. The members of the SAWPY Federal Conference Presidium concluded today that this was confirmed during last year's celebrations of the 50th anniversary of Tito's acceding to the head of the Communist Party of Yugoslavia.

The Presidium adopted a report on the course of the celebrations of this historic jubilee and pointed out that they were dignified, successful, and of mass and working nature. [passage omitted]

Taking part in the discussion, Joze Smole said that along with a resolute and well-argued confrontation with those who attack Tito's work, one should also resolutely open a front against the forces that work from bureaucratic-statist positions and that, in the name of strengthening the unity of Yugoslavia, attack the foundations of the federal system. One should intensify the struggle against anti-communist tendencies, as well as the tendencies that objectively prevent the solving of social and economic problems and narrow down the scope of self-management.

Milan Rakas said that the enemy acts continuously and in an organized way, and that he plants ideas through our tribunes and media. The way the enemy does this shows that he has learned well from the struggle of the Communist Party of Yugoslavia against the bourgeois system. We have failed in our confrontation with the enemy, and we are sharper in our mutual disagreements than in resisting attacks on Tito.

In Rakas' opinion, there exists another kind of attacks on Tito's work that objectively come from our ranks. It must be made clear that our running up of debts is not on Tito's line. Rakas recalled that 10 years ago, when our debts were only half as large, Tito warned that we would end up like Chile if we continued in the same way. We must now assume our part of the burden and say that we have deviated from Tito's path, Rakas said. He also referred to Tito's report to the 10th LCY Congress and the positions on the unity of the workers class. He emphasized that it is necessary to see how substantial the deviations from Tito's stands are at present. [TANJUG parts 3 and 4 not received]

It was envisaged that under the next point on the agenda the Presidium should deal with the implementation of the overall editorial policy of the Borba Work Organization and its three newspapers that were founded by the Federal Conference. A discussion lasting 4 hours reduced this plan to BORBA alone. VECERNJE NOVOSTI and EKONOMSKA POLITIKA were rarely mentioned, and their work last year was affirmatively assessed.

The majority of the participants extended acknowledgment and support to BORBA for the push forward that it accomplished on the basis of its new editorial policy [uredjivacki koncept], for its Yugoslav orientation, and for its timely and true effort to inform the public about all the most important questions of our reality.

However, the omissions made in the editorial policy attracted much attention from everybody. Different appraisals of the political implications of the omissions were made in the discussion, but it was a unanimous

conclusion that serious errors were involved. The resignation of the chief editor was even requested. However, this will be discussed at length at another Presidium session.

In the assessment of Stojan Dimovski, the opening speaker, BORBA implemented its basic editorial orientation last year within the strategic guidelines adopted by the SAWPY Federal Conference Presidium not quite 2 years ago. Along this general line, despite all the shortcomings noted, BORBA made another push forward in its involvement, pugnacity, and quality. It strove to report in a balanced and conscientious way from all parts of Yugoslavia. In addition, it endeavored to become a tribune of all progressive forces in finding a way out of the crisis our society is in.

Dimovski stressed that the support for the overall efforts in the field of editorial policy, above all its Yugoslav orientation and technological development, was extended in all the social communities in the country. It is a matter of supporting collective efforts and, as he put it, it cannot be comprehended as some special personal praise.

Recalling that the BORBA editorial board and publishing house critically discussed its own shortcomings, Dimovski listed the negative occurrences that were most frequently mentioned in previous discussions of the newspaper. These were attempts to negate the leading role of the LCY, uncritical publication of articles that suggest that democracy may be reached through social and historical degradation of the LCY, and they culminated in some articles proposing the introduction of a multi-party system. The discussions in BORBA councils and in the SAWP emphasized that repetition of such errors could be harmful to the overall editorial policy of the newspaper, Dimovski said. He personally urged that harmful tendencies be resolutely eliminated.

Dimovski also spoke about the program orientation of BORBA this year and said, among other things, that the publications of this publishing house must be resolute and consistent in the struggle against those tendencies that strive to turn public media into sources of pressure, and of settling of accounts, and loudspeakers of certain statist and bureaucratic structures.

The SAWP, Dimovski stressed, must conduct a constant struggle against any monopoly over the truth. One must not allow that an editorial board should receive commands or anything that would tie them to certain power centers.

Frequent discussions in the LCY leadership about public media do not mean directing, but an effort to develop the envisaged authentic concept of public information in Yugoslavia, Marko Lolic said in the discussion. In this sense, strivings to eliminate shortcomings are not an attack on the press nor its disqualification, but a contribution to its role and dignity. Lolic then said that in a

discussion held at the initiative of the LCY Central Committee Presidium a year ago, very serious remarks were made to BORBA leaders about some occurrences noted. These were vacillations and contradictions in their stand on the changes in the political system, reports on obscure foreign articles, quasi-liberal concepts and thus a lack of understanding of the essence and the sense of socialist democracy and of dialogue in it. It was also a matter of onesidedness in selecting interviewees and outside correspondents, of an unequal attitude toward the several Yugoslav communities, situations, and activities, as well as toward some federal organs. It was also a question of rather ill-tempered writing about the LCY and its historical place and role in society, and a tendentious reprinting of articles from other papers.

Lolic said that it may be said after a year that these remarks did not get the best reception in BORBA editorial offices, or were not quite adequately presented there. Some of these blemishes have indeed been overcome, but some have remained, and some have got worse.

Supporting the assessments of the Borba publishing council, Lolic also supported the intention of the leadership of the publishing house and of the editorial board to make organizational and cadre changes so that the implementation of the editorial policy could be continued more consistently.

Ines Saskor said that in Croatia it was assessed that BORBA is a good newspaper, critical and open, and its strivings for a way out of the crisis follow the line of the Long-Term Program of Economic Stabilization. As regards errors, they have been chiefly of a professional nature, but a small number of them have also had political implications. This was visible in texts about the LCY position and place, in which respect the arguments were superficial, of the nature of petty intrigue. It is understandable that in those cases the public could not understand because the position of the editorial board was lacking, Ines Saskor said.

Petar Rakocevic also advocated a timely reaction to disputed articles. He also stressed that the question of the content of BORBA articles has been politicized for too long and has been used for settling accounts that do not serve the discussions about the newspaper. Underlining that the newspaper has made significant advances in elaborating current social subjects, Rakocevic resented the fact that articles from associated labor have not been sufficiently represented.

In the opinion of Istvan Racan, BORBA has made some progress in developing as an organ of the widest citizens' organization. In Vojvodina we consider that it is good that BORBA is open to the pluralism of self-managing interests more than it used to be. However, the acceptance and publication of articles that lean toward or express a peculiar political pluralism are outside the accepted editorial policy.

Rajcan stressed that the Vojvodina SAWP is not fully satisfied with articles that describe the situation and the difficulties in the province. We believe it is important for reporting to be objective and without prejudices, and that arguments that are heard along with our views should be carefully examined.

Mirko Ostojic among other things stressed that BORBA should be the organ of the federation that should finance it, too. He supported the assessments of the articles that degraded the LCY role. He pointed out that the newspaper should not have published articles that labeled the eighth plenum of the LC of Serbia "dogmatic" and even "Stalinist."

Vojislav Micovic expressed the sharpest criticism of BORBA's articles. On behalf of the Republican Conference of the SAWP of Serbia, he even demanded the resignation of Stanislav Marinkovic, chief editor of the newspaper. He said that such omissions and shortcomings occurred in the implementation of the editorial policy from July 1987 to February 1988 and that they had serious political implications and jeopardized the otherwise good basic orientation. Among other things, Micovic said that for several months BORBA failed to inform the public about the social processes and current events in the SR of Serbia in an objective, comprehensive, and impartial way. Remarks were presented in talks with the leadership of the newspaper, but the editorial board was never telephoned for the purpose of intervention, and so one cannot talk about pressure. One was careful so that this could not be wrongly interpreted, because the seat of the newspaper is in Serbia and the chief editor also comes from that community.

At the end, he said that the Serbian SAWP was of the opinion that the mistakes in the paper's editorial policy are not the result of accidental professional mistakes. However, they were a matter of serious weaknesses that have, objectively speaking, become a trend. In view of that, as well as of the fact that our remarks and suggestions regarding the consistency in the implementation of BORBA's editorial policy were received with certain hostility in the editorial board, we do not have any guarantee that under the present chief editor's leadership the editorial policy will be conducted in accordance with the basic concept.

This is why the chief editor cannot enjoy our confidence and support, nor can we share the responsibility of the paper's orientation if measures are not taken so that the paper does not deviate from the established editorial policy, Vojislav Micunovic said.

On the basis of the Serbian SAWP's request, Stanislav Marinkovic asked that the Presidium evaluate his work and confirm or recall his mandate. Among other things, he said that in the talk with the Serbian leadership only those criticisms that were not based on facts and calling names were found unacceptable. He then extensively spoke about the paper's successes and mistakes.

Joze Smole, Nenad Bucin, and Milan Rakas reacted to Marinkovic's speech.

Bucin was in favor of giving the present chief editor a vote of confidence, but also wanted the editorial board strengthened. He said that the organ of the front such as the SAWP must be viewed with more flexibility than the party press. Bucin also said that in our practice nobody's mandate is being recalled for failing to realize the political program adopted by some organs.

Smole said that he accepts the criticism of his comrades from Serbia because they were made with good intention, but that the question of the chief editor requires additional argumentation. I agree that mistake have been made, and just as Comrade Micunovic is sensitive about articles on Serbia, I am sensitive about the treatment of the Slovene syndrome, although BORBA has had the least of that.

Director of BORBA Milan Rakas was surprised at the request and suggested that this should be discussed at another Presidium session. He stressed that there was an agreement with comrades from Serbia according to which a meeting can be called within a period of 3 months, which has not expired yet, but that certain cadre and organizational changes should be introduced. He also said that the chief editor has already changed three heads of the daily editorial board in order to improve the implementation of the editorial policy.

In that context Bogdan Trifunovic said that one cannot link today's entire discussion on mistakes to Serbia and that the problem was much wider. He stressed that, especially after Stanislav Marinkovic's speech, he does not see any guarantee that changes will take place unless he goes. Trifunovic also favored a calm and democratic conversation without categorical demands for a vote of confidence on the mandate. He described Marinkovic's assessments of the paper's results as immoderate and criticized it, as he said, for presenting critical remarks as attacks on BORBA and the SAWP.

If BORBA had really been sympathetic to separatism or centralism, then we should renounce it and stop financing it, Velizar Skerovic said. According to him there are fewer mistakes in BORBA than in some republican and provincial newspapers that have become closed and write only about what suits local leaderships. Skerovic also said that it was not good to direct the press through closed meetings, outside the public's eyes and ears.

Milan Vucicevic, Nijaz Skenderagic, and Uros Bajic also spoke about BORBA's writing.

The discussion was long and unpleasant, but it was needed and was valuable because the SAWPY, as BORBA's founder, was responsible for the task of critically following the work of the paper rather than of only taking care of its material position. Milojko Drulovic said at the end the discussion.

The conclusions that were then adopted state, among other things, that the discussion was critical, objective, and constructive. It was also said that the Borba publishing house has achieved important results and that it has made a significant contribution to the overall information of the Yugoslav public. As far as BOREA newspaper is concerned, it was stated that the editorial policy contained serious mistakes that were pointed out at previous discussions and at today's discussion. In that context it was pointed to need for a greater involvement of the publishing council, the director, and the chief and responsible editor in order to undertake measures in time and face shortcomings.

Considering the content of the discussion about the paper and the suggestions made, the Presidium has decided that a working group make a summary and suggestions and forward them to this body as soon as possible for another discussion.

Croat LC Sets Date for Conference

LD182217 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service
in Serbo-Croatian 1406 GMT 18 Apr 88

[Text] Zagreb, 18 Apr (TANJUG)—The second conference of the Croat LC will be held on 26 May in Zagreb. The main topic of the conference will be the fulfillment of the LC's tasks in organizing the activities of young people in developing socialist self-management. A decision to this effect was made by the Presidium of the Croat LC that met today with Stanko Stojcevic in the chair.

The Presidium also decided to convene on 5 May a meeting of the Croat LC Central Committee with the delegates to the First LCY Conference. On 12 May, the Croat LC Central Committee will adopt its stances following the public debate on the proposed amendments to the SFRY Constitution.

Loncar Pays Working Visit to Croatia

LD182257 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service
in Serbo-Croatian 1534 GMT 18 Apr 88

[Text] Zagreb, 18 Apr (TANJUG)—Budimir Loncar, federal secretary for foreign affairs, today paid a working visit to the SR of Croatia. Loncar is reported to have had talks with Ante Markovic, president of the presidency of the SR of Croatia, and the Presidency's members, who he briefed on the topical international situation and

developments in the world. He also told them about the results of the country's foreign political activity and its current activity in this sphere.

In this context, particular reference was made to the outcome of the recent Balkan foreign ministers conference and to SFRY relations with individual neighboring countries. He also referred to results and prospects for regional Alpine-Adriatic cooperation, the SFRY's cooperation with nonaligned Mediterranean countries, and to our country's attitude toward the economic groupings in Europe.

Reference also was made to the significance of the recent visit to our country by Mikhail Gorbachev, to the negotiations with the IMF, and the debt rescheduling. Particular attention was focused on the importance of Yugoslavia's orientation toward the Mediterranean and to a number of projects of importance to all of Yugoslavia as well as to the prospects for joint investment in developing the infrastructure, tourism, programs for restructuring our economy, etc. In this context, emphasis was placed on the importance of the Italian-Yugoslav memorandum of Law No. 49.

Budimir Loncar also had talks with Antun Milovic, president of the Croat Executive Council. The talks were on the current issues of cadre policy in the sphere of foreign policy and international relations, as well as about a number of topical issues of cooperation between the Federal Secretariat for Foreign Affairs and competent organs in the SR of Croatia.

Agrokomerc Employees Stop Work Over Pay

LD181235 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service
in Serbo-Croatian 1050 GMT 18 Apr 88

[Summary] Velika Kladusa, 18 Apr (TANJUG)—The workers in the Agrokomerc food complex work organizations today stopped working. Several hundred of them walked about 4 kms to the cinema hall in Velika Kladusa where a conference of the Agrokomerc trade union basic organizations was being held. Shouts of things like "we are hungry, give us bread and a job" could be heard from the column of workers. What is happening is that for 8 months now, 9,300 Agrokomerc workers have been receiving guaranteed minimum wages. As a result, the workers with families with several members live below the bread line. The slow manner in which the future of Agrokomerc and its workers is being resolved "has created a very difficult situation in Velika Kladusa."